ting for Sufferings

n Representave

men Meeting after
6-14-1872

16-1842 — 6-9-1887

ARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

No. 222

M.S. R.M. after 6.14.1872
Men
Women
6.16.1842—6.9.1887.
YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

Apology, Minute approving thereof 69
Anthony Thomas, Testimony concerning 225
Advice, Minute of to our members 281=82
Address to President Johnson 313

Beede Cyrus - Testimony concerng. 9.
Books and publications 27.22
Breed Lydia, Testimony concerning 88.
Boarding School Com. Comn from 127.
Berwick Monthly Meeting, Comn from Friends belonging to it — 176
Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings — 191. 192
Epistle to
Do. " Epistle from informing " " of Separation 219-222
Boarding School Comm Comn from 224
Boston Meeting House, Committee in regard to it — 238
" Report of the Committee 243
" Committee in regard to the sale thereof 246
" Comm to collect information in regard " to the origin of the property 246
Books & publications — 252
Bassett Hannah. Memoir concerning, 257
British Provinces - Com. in regard to poor Friends living there — 257
Bassett Hannah, liberty granted to print her Memoir — — 258
Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, Communication from in regard to North Carolina Boarding School 263
Conclusion of Y. Meeting in regard North Carolina Boarding School 267
Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings Communication from — 291 +292.
Boarding School - Comn from Comm relative to a change in the price of Tuition 302
Boston Meeting House - Committee in regard to it 302
Boarding School - Price of Board & tuition raised — 309
Boston Meeting House - Committee in regard to it — 310 -
Do. Do. Report of Sale thereof 311 -
Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, Communication from in regard to North-Carolina Friends 312
Boston Meeting House, Report of settlement for sale thereof — 316
Do - Do. Report in regard to investment of the funds — 317.
Boston. Minute in regard to " holding meetings there 319
Boarding School Com. Communication from — 323.24
Com. authorized to erect an additional building — 325
Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, Comn from 334

Clerk appointed 79, 66. 55, 18-1.
Committee on conference and correspondence 67.55
Chase, Stephen A. liberty to print J. J. Gr faith – 73
Collins Hannah C^{s} Memoir – 84
Card Mary, Testimony Concerning – 101.
Chase Henry & wife Testimony concerning 102
Conference, Com^{n} from the com^{e} on 114
Correspondence with Phil^{a} & Ohio, Committee appointed in relation to it 182
Com^{n} from Correspdts of L. Y. Mtg. 183
Com^{e} to receive Wm Forster & others from London Yearly Meeting – 185
China Monthly Meeting, Communication from – 236
Cushions for Meeting House 252
Collins, Mary A. Testimony Concerning 254
Conscripts, doings in relation to Friends drawn as such 287=88
Committee to proceed to Washington on a/c of Conscripts 288
Committee's Report in regard to 289-90
Committee to advise with Conscripts 290
Conference at Baltimore & Com. to attend it – 293 & 294
" Report from Committee to attend the Conference 294
Conscript law, copy thereof – 304-305
Conscripts, report of committee in regard to them – 305-307
Minute in relation thereto – 310
Conference of Friends in Baltimore, Report from the Committee who visited the President 312
Baltimore meeting for Sufferings; Com^{n} from concerning a Mtg. house in Wash^{n} 325
Cates Anna testimony concerning 326
Collins Timothy C. Testimony Concerning 336

Document prepared by Committee of conference & a committee appointed to distribute it = 106.
Dublin Meeting for Sufferings Epistle to – 187, 188
Do. Do. Do. Epistle from 196-195
Davis Joseph, Testimony Concerning = 264
Day Eunice Testimony Concerning 326
Discipline, Revision thereof – 328.
" Report of committee 330.
The above seven entries are carried to second column of next page –

Chase Mary Testimony Concerning 336
Congdon Gilbert " " 359

C D
E F
G H
I J
K L
M N
O P
Q R
S T
U V
V Y

Dillingham Stephen – letter from – 29.208.9.
Dennett Oliver and Lydia L. 19.
Discipline – Com. in relation to 79.67.35
Dover Qy. Meetg. com. from Com. 60.
Do – Addition made to the Com. in relation thereto 67
Do Communication from Committee – – 69
Discipline, Report of Com, in relation to 78
Do – Committee again appointed 80
Do – Final Conclusion in relation to it 85
Do – Com. to prepare a history of its Introduction, 91, 93
Do – Report of Com. to print a new edition, 94.
Do – Com. appted. to print another edition 96–99
Dartmouth Mo. Meeting. Comn. from 100–
Discipline, proposition from Var. Quarter to alter – – } 107
Do. Com. appointed to consider – – 108
" Report from Comn. 114
Dennis, Hannah, Testimony Concerning – 204
Discipline Com. apptd, to propose some change therein – } 231
Discipline, Committee appointed to print a new edition – } 239
" Committee reported – 242
" Committee in relation thereto – 257
" Report of Committee – 258
" Minute adopted – 259
Davis, Ruth Testimony Concerning – 319

Documents prepared by committee of Conference & committee appointed to distribute it 106
Dublin Meeting for Suffgs, Epistle to. 187, 188
Do. Do Epistle from — 194, 195
Davis Joseph Testimony Concerning 264
Discipline, revision thereof – 328
Do – Report of Committee 330
Day Eunice Testimony Concerning – } 326

Eſsay on Doctrines & Testimonies 17.
Do. Committee to print --- 18.
Epistle to Ohio Meetg. for Sufferings 36.
Do. to subordinate Meetings 41.
Do. from Indiana Meetg. for Sufferings 44.

EF
GH
IJ
KL
MN
OP
QR
ST
UV
VY

Friends Library p. 2
Freed-men - contributions for - 308
Farr, Eliza M. Testimony Concerning 319

Gove Daniel - Memorial of 33.
Greene Rowland Testimony conc^{g} 259

Hoag Huldah B. - Memoir - 47

History of Mtgs. composing. N. E. Y. Mtg. Com. to prepare 91
94. 98. 100 -

Howland, Thomas. Testimony concerning - 102 -

Hodges. Martha J. Memorial Concerning 112 -

Hussey Thankful, Com. to examine her
" " writings - } 174

Howland Susan, Testimony Concerning 359

Indiana Mtg. for Sufferings – Epistle from — 53.765.
Ireland, Com. appointed on account. famine 73
Do – Report of the Com. 76
Do – " " " 81
Indiana Mtg. for Sffgs Epistle to 193
Do. " " " Epistle from
" informing of Separation in Ohio. } 213 to 217
" Comee apptd. to prepare an Epistle to. 217
" Epistle to Mtg. for Sufferings 218
" Epistle from Mtg for Sufferings 293
Iowa Meeting for Sufferings.
Communication from — } 317
Indians, Com. to prepare a memorial 329
" Com to go to Washington with } 330
" Memorial } 331 332
Iowa. Meeting for Sufferings
" Communication from } 332

IJ
KL
MN
OP
QR
ST
UV
VY

Jenkins Anna A. – Memorial of 101
Jones Eli & Sybil – com. apptd. to assist them
in regard to their visit in foreign lands } 117
Jones Eli & Sybil – Report of comn respecting
" " " their departure for Africa } 117
" " " Letter of advice to them 119
" " " Report of their return to America 128
" " " Memorandums kept by them
" " " refered to a Committee } 128
" " " Report of com. on the Memoranda – 170
" " " Rachel W. Testimony Concerning – 254
Jones Thomas. Testimony Concerning – 314

Kelly, Lydia R. Testimony Concerning 235
Keene, Avis. Testimony Concerning 336

K
L
M
N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
V
Y

London General Epistle 78.23.2
London Meetg. for Sufferings - communication from 74.64 57.39
Do. Do. Communication to 76
Do - Do. Books from - - 87
Do - Do - Comm. to respecting Eli & Sybil Jones 121
Do - Yearly Mtg. minute of - 184=5
Do - Meeting for Sufferings Epistle to - 185
Do - Do - Do - Epistle from - 197
Do - Do Report from Comm. appted to receive their minutes. - 201
Do. Communication to, in relation to family from Stavanger with Certificate 212
Do. Communication from - 232
Do Communication to - 234
Do Document entitled "Salutation" recd. 247
Do - Communication from on Slave trade - 262
Do. Y. Meeting Epistle from - 267
Do - Meeting for Sufferings. Memorial from Etc. 267
Letter from President Lincoln to S. B. Tobey - 271
London Meeting for Sufferings Epistle from - 291

Ministering Friends – Committee to provide for 22.1.
Memorials of Friends – disposition of &c 19.2.
Militia bill – Rhode Island – Committee on 7.3.
Memorial to Congress 81-2-3-68.63.37.29.26.24.23.22
Memorials of Friends – Com. to print 29.26.
Monthly Meeting – circular to 58.
Militia bill Mass. Com. on 85
Memorial to Congress, Report from Com. 87
Militia bill, in Mass Leg. Report from the com. 87
Memorials of Friends, Com. to print – 90, 93
Do. Do. On hand, Com. to distribute 90, 91
Marriage, Act in Mass. Legislature – 102
Memorials of Friends, Com. to print – 107
Do. " Copies sent to other Mtg, for Sppg, 108
Military Requisitions in N. H. Com. apptd 110
" " Report of Comee 113
Meader Elizabeth M. Memoir concerng 115
Military Requisitions in N. H. Report of Com. 123
Memorials of Friends. Com. to print – 124
" " Report from Com. 125
Ministers from other Y. Meetings; Com. appointed to assist – – – 170
Memorials, Com. to print – – – 174
" Report of Comee 177
Macomber Anna – – – 177
Memorial to Congress against Nebr. bill. 200
" " " Report from the " Comee apptd to forward memorial 203
Memorials. Comee apptd to print 211
Memorials, Comee apptd to print – 239
Meader John Testimony Concerning – 264
Memorial to the President and Committee to present it 269
Militia Laws, committee to represent Friends in regard to 270
Report of committee to present the Memorial to the President 271
Militia Laws. Report of Committee in relation to 272
Committee apptd, in relation to 274
Military requisitions, report com. – 275
Do. . Do. — Do 276
Memorial to R. I. Legislature in relation to – 277
Report of Committee in relation to – 278
Memorial to Massachusetts Legislature in relation to – – 278, 79, 80
Memorial to Governor Andrew 253 = 84
Military Laws, Committee to advice Friends brought into Suffering 285 = 86
Memorial to Congress, & committee appointed to present it 300 & 301 –
Report of said Committee – 303
Meader Martha, Testimony Concerning 319
Ministering Friends Com. to provide for 326
Memorials of Friends Com. to print 338

Nichols Andrew - Testimony concerning 8.
New York Meeting for Sufferys. Com. 113. 71. 60. 53.
North Carolina D° 57.
Nantucket Mo. Mtg. application from Friends - 69.
North-Carolina Meeting for Sffgs. Com. from, 110
New York Meeting for Sufferings - Epistle to - 190, 191
North-Carolina Mtg. for Sffgs. Epistle to 192
Nichols Stephen Testimony Concerning 203
Norway, arrival of a family from with Certe from Stavanger &c 212
Nantucket Monthly Meeting. Comn from - 222, 223
" Comee applied on account of property - 223
Norway, Conclusion of Meeting in regard to accepting Certificates from 225
Nantucket, Report of comee in relation to the property of that mo. mtg 230
Nova-Scotia - Poor Friends there to be assisted by the Yearly Meeting 261
North-Carolina Boarding School assistance rendered the School 265
New Bedford; Friends of that mtg. apply for advice in regard to obtaining legal title to real Estate 273
Newyork Representative mtg - Address from - 275
North-Carolina, Money paid for their Boarding school 276
North-Carolina - Subscription for Friends relief there 312

Osborne Ruth, Testimony concerning 102
Ohio Yearly Meeting; Epistle to their Meeting for Sufferings } 188=189
" Epistle from their meeting for Suffgs 227
" Epistle to Do. Do 230
" Comn from meeting for Sufferings 335

OP
QR
ST
UV
VY

Publications and documents (ancient) 35.29.28
Page, John, testimony concerning, 77
Pamphlets & Publications reflecting upon N. E.
" Y. Meeting, Com. to consider of them } 124
Page. Sophronia. Memorial of – 172, 124
Pembroke Mo. Meeting. Comn from – 126
Pamphlets & publications – Report of
" " Committee in relation to } 129
Page Alice Memorial concerning – 172
Page Sophronia, Com. to examine memoranda kept by her – } 174
Phila Yearly Meeting; Epistle to their Meeting for Sufferings – } 189. 190
Peace, Committee appointed to consider what is to be done for its promotion } 328
" Report of the above Committee 336

Quarterly Meetings, Com^{n} from Y. Mtg. respecting a change in the time of holding some of them - — — —— 179. 174

Q
R
S
T
U
V
V
Y

Rathbun, Alice, testimony Concerning. 77
Read, Noah, testimony concerning. 88
R. I. Mo. Mtg. comn from their clerk 111
Rhode-Island, com. to memorialize the Legislature 172
Robinson Mary A. testimony concerning 254
Refugees, Coloured, minute in relation to. 276
Do. Do — Do — — 301
Roberts. Sarah B. Testimony Concerning 319

lavery Appeal on 1.
tate of Things in Rhode Island Quarter 45.4.3.
uits at Law in Swanzey Mo. Mtg - 80. 49
chool Fund - Treasurer of. 61
uit at Law, Report from Committee 87
andwich Mo. Mtg, Com. for it to advice with 92 95
Shearman Abraham Jr. Test.^{y} concerning - 94,
Southwick Royal Memorial Concerning 115
Suit at Law. Report from Com. 125
Do — Do — Do 178. 171
Slavery, Com. in relation to - 179. 177
" Minute respecting - 179
Sandwich Mo. Mtg. Com.^{n} from its Com.^{e} - 196
Scriptures. books to be used in imparting a knowledge to children 198
Slavery, Com. to prepare a memorial to Congress, in relation to - 199
Sandwich Mo. Mtg. Report from committee to advise them in relation to their trust property - 205

S
T
U
V
V
Y

Taber, Phebe P. testimony concerning - 77
Treasurer of Y. Mtg. authorized to hire money 170
Trust property. Com.e appted to ascertain
whether removing the Y. Mtg. would affect it } 212
Report of the above Committee - 227
Do. Do. Do - — 237
Travelling expenses of Friends attending
the Yearly Meeting, Committee to equalize
them; or, propose a plan for it — } 238
Treasurer of Y. Mtg. & of Boarding School
make a statement each in regard to
the investment of funds in their hands } 248
Taber Hannah T. Testimony Concerning - 254
Taylor Samuel, Testimony Concerning - 254
" " " Returned to Qr. Mtg. 255
Testimonies of deceased Friends, should
not be biography of their lives - } 255
Treasurer of Yearly Meeting Author-
ized to pay the balance spent for cushions } 258
Treasurer authorized to pay the balance
due for equalizing expenses of Friends in
going to Yearly Meeting - } 260
Testimonies concerning deceased
Friends. Committee to print - } 261
Taxes for revenue for Government
to be paid - } 274
Trust Funds - Com. appted to
report upon the way to mange } 320
Report of Com. on Trust Funds - 321-22
Travelling expenses of Friends to Yearly meeting,
payment of same by meeting discontinued } 425
Testimonies concerning deceased Friends. Comt 338
Report of Comt to print 340

Uxbridge Inv. Mtg. Com^{n} from 111

U
V
V
Y

Vindication of N. E. Y. Mtg. Com.
" " appointed to print — 469
" " Report of Com. — 470
Vassalboro' Monthly Meeting Comn
from — — — 236
Varney Mary P. testimony
Concerning — 326

Worth Benj. Testimony concerning 8.
Warren John Testimony, Concerning – 102
Wing Elizabeth, testimony Concerning – 203
War, Essay in relation to – 206
Wadsworth, Moses, Testimony Concerning 225
Wolfboro Meeting House. Com. in regard to it – – 310
Do. Report of committee in regard Wolfboro Meeting House – 311

W
Y

Yearly Meeting - expense of 80, 67, 56. 35. 19. 2.
Do. Committee appointed to provide for 67, 65. 50. 27, 170, 75
Do - Com. to examine, Act of Incorporation 66
Do - Report of Com. on Act of Incorporation 74
Do - Com. to obtain a place for keeping
" Yearly Meeting Records 81
Do Com. to inform Friends about accom-
" modations while attending - 170, 177, 235, 253
Do Com. appted to consider the subject of
" making provisions for some who attend 231
" Report from said committee - 237
Do. Committee in regard to the House & lot 239
Do Report from committee in regard
" to Repairs on the House - 249
Do. Agreement with R. I. Mo. Meeting
" in regard to land on which the mee-
" ting House stands - 251
" Report of com. upon equalizing
" travelling expenses of Friends 265
" Report in relation thereto &
" Com. appted. to pay the same 273
Report in relation thereto 318, 319

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at Newport at the close of the Yearly Meeting 6th month 16th 1842 –

Present 30 members viz Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman jun. Estes Newhall, Francis Taber, Thomas Anthony, John Warren, Matthew Purinton, Daniel Johnson, James N. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Caleb Nichols, Perez Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jun. Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, Nathan Pope, Allen Wing and Samuel Boyd Tobey –

We appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk of this Meeting for the ensuing year –

It is concluded that the times and places of holding the stated sittings of this Meeting be the same as last year viz. at Providence in the 8th and 11th months at the 9th hour in the morning on the seventh day of the week of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting – and also at Providence in the 2nd month at the 3. hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting at that place – at East Greenwich in the 5th month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting there at the 3. hour in the afternoon, and at Newport on 7th day at the 5th hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting –

We appoint our friends David Buffum, William Jenkins, Edward Wing, George Howland, Arnold Congdon, Perez Peck, Jonathan Dennis, Samuel Boyce, Caleb Nichols and John D. Lang to render any necessary assistance to ministering friends travelling among us from abroad who are in attendance of our Yearly Meeting – and they are authorized to draw from the treasury what may be needed for this purpose.

The Clerk informs that he has received a communication from Elijah Coffin on behalf of a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting desiring to procure 3000 copies of the "Appeal on Slavery" issued by this Meeting – he is authorized to supply that Committee with the number requested, at cost, without charge for the use of our plates – and he is also desired to have 2000 additional copies printed for the use of this Meeting –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 6th of 8th month 1842 – Present 15 members viz Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman jun. Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce, Allen Wing and Samuel Boyd Tobey—

The Committee to make provision for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting presented their account amounting to $944.04— The Treasurer is requested to pay them $344.04 the balance due said Committee in addition to $600. already directed to be paid by this Meeting—

The Book of Records of this Meeting being filled the Clerk is requested to procure a suitable one and authorised to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost—

It appearing that a considerable number of the Memorials of deceased Friends published by this Meeting yet remain in the hands of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting he is requested to cause the same to be distributed gratuitously to friends in the different monthly meetings—

During this meeting various subjects of deep interest to the Society have engaged our attention and much unity of feeling and sentiment has been manifested—under an encouraging sense whereof we now conclude—

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 11 mo: 5th 1842 Present 15 members viz. Abraham Shearman jun Thomas Anthony Matthew Purinton, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Moses Farnum, John Meader, Edward Wing Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce and Allen Wing—

The London General Epistle for 1842 was received and read at this time and has been to our satisfaction and comfort; and in order that Friends generally may have an opportunity to become poſseſsed of the valuable advice and counsel contained in it, we appoint Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies of it to be printed and distributed to the Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions—and draw on the Treasurer for the cost—

We have received at this time a printed minute from Philadelphia Meeting for Sufferings on the subject of the Friends' Library which claimed our deliberate consideration; and while a united and feeling concern was fully manifested for the circulation of the writings of ancient Friends as originally printed—way does not open with us to take further action in relation to the said minute—

This meeting having been brought under a deep concern in consequence of a painful apprehension that there is wanting among Friends correct information in relation to the true state of things existing in this Yearly Meeting - especially in Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting - and believing that it devolves upon us, in the ordering of Truth agreeably to the organization of this Meeting, to attend to the subject we appoint our friends John Meader, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, Thos. Anthony, Abraham Shearman jun. Peter Peck, Samuel Boyce, Edmund Chace and Allen Wing to take it into their deliberate and solid consideration and as way opens for it prepare and present to a future meeting a faithful statement of the facts in the case. -

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 Mo. 1st 1843 - Present 15 members viz. Rowland Greene, Nicholas Congdon, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis David Buffum, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce and Samuel Boyd Tobey -

Samuel Boyce reports that he has caused the London General Epistle to be printed and distributed agreeably to his appointment -

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay Job Shearman $160 - to defray the expense of repairs made to the Yearly Meeting House at Newport as advised by this Meeting -

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to prepare, as way may open for it, a statement of facts in relation to the state of things within our borders inform that they have given attention to their appointment but are not prepared at this time to present a report - the subject is still referred to their attention -

Being informed that a new bill is now pending before the Legislature of Rhode Island in relation to the Militia of this State, we appoint our friends William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon, Joseph Metcalf and Samuel Boyd Tobey to give such attention to the subject as they may find necessary in order for the protection of Friends from inconvenience in the support of our christian testimony against bearing arms -

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5 Mo. 3d 1843 - Present 19 members viz Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, Nicholas Congdon, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon

George Howland, John D. Lang, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, Allen Wing and Samuel Boyd Tobey —

The Committee appointed in the 11th month and continued at our last meeting made the following report which was approved viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings

The Committee appointed in the 11th mo. and continued in the 2d mo. to prepare a faithful statement of the facts in relation to certain occurrences and the state of things especially within the limits of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, now inform — that they have given attention to their appointment and have made some progreſs in drawing up a history as proposed; but would suggest that its presentation to the meeting and entry upon the Records should be deferred for the present — They have further to report that they have believed it to be their duty to prepare and present to this meeting the accompanying eſsay embracing some of the prominent points of faith and practice of our religious Society with the view that, if it be approved, it may be forwarded for the consideration and adoption of the Yearly Meeting —

On behalf of the Committee

Providence 3 mo. 21st 1843 — John Meader"

The eſsay therewith presented was read and, after an expreſsion of much unity with it, its further consideration was referred to our friends John D. Lang, Thomas Howland, Saml. Boyd Tobey, William Jenkins, Rowland Greene, John Meader and Joseph Metcalf who are requested to give it their deliberate attention and present it to our next meeting —

We have received at this time the following communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting giving us the painful information that "in the progreſs of the workings of a spirit of activity, self confidence and insubordination" a separation has taken place within the limits of that meeting and an independent aſsociation organized, bearing the title of "Indiana Yearly Meeting of Anti-Slavery Friends" — Upon the reading of this document this meeting has been introduced into tender sympathy with our brethren of Indiana Yearly Meeting in their present tried situation and a feeling of near unity with them was manifested in their concern to preserve their members from mingling in the popular aſsociations of the day, for the plausible purpose of promoting those objects which, as a Society, we are and have long been concerned to advance on religious ground — And the Clerk is directed to acknowledge the reception of this seasonable epistle from Indiana Meeting for Sufferings and to communicate to them an expreſsion of our sympathy, unity and love —

"From the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held at White Water, Wayne County, Indiana by adjournments the 6th and 7th of the 3 month 1843 — To the Meeting for Sufferings of Friends in New England — Dear Friends —

Our meeting has been called together at this time on a painful occasion — In the progreſs of the workings of a Spirit of activity, self-confidence and insubordination, which has for some time past been apparent among a portion of the members of this Yearly Meeting, another separation from our religious Society has been effected, and a new and independent aſsociation has been organized bearing the title of 'Indiana Yearly Meeting of Anti Slavery Friends' — This new organization took place at Newport within the limits of New Garden quarter on the 7th of last month, and those forming it proceeded, as we understand, to appoint Walter Edgerton, Clerk; to adopt a Discipline; to appoint a Meeting for Sufferings; to addreſs each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends; and to do other such busineſs as is common in the Yearly Meetings of our religious Society —

We think it our duty to give you early notice of this state of things, and to aſsure you that the new aſsociation is one, with which, being set up out of the good order, and contrary to the discipline and usages of our Society we can have no correspondence or communication.

In their declaration of the causes of their separation which has recently appeared, many charges are put forth affecting unfavorably the religious character and standing of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Indiana, and many of our well concerned members — One of these which stands conspicuous in many parts of the document, and also in other publications of theirs, and which has been largely circulated by them, is, that the Society composing our Yearly Meeting is opposing the abolition of Slavery; that it, by its measures, is countenancing and supporting, Slave-holders, slave holding and Slavery; and that our well known christian testimony against Slavery is not maintained; in the place of which apathy and the fear of popular sentiment have been suffered to get poſseſsion; and that lukewarmneſs and the want of a disposition to do any thing for the slave have been the consequences — Another is that the proceedings of our Yearly Meeting, in its own acts, and of the subordinate meetings in carrying out its advices, have been arbitrary, proscription, irregular and contrary to discipline — These and various other charges equally untrue and unfounded, against the Yearly and other meetings and their Committees, and individuals acceptably filling responsible stations in Society, have been made and widely circulated — We have no expectation on the present occasion of going into an examination and refutation, singly, of the various charges that have come to our knowledge; but we think it right to take this opportunity to declare, that our Society in this Yearly Meeting, has not relaxed in its testimony against Slavery; that, on the contrary it is the united belief of this meeting, that the testimony has been growing stronger and stronger amongst us for many years past, and that our Yearly Meeting earnestly desires to improve every right opening, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, to advocate the cause of universal and unconditional emancipation; and to manifest on all proper occasions our testimony against Slavery and oppression — Our members have also been desired, in the advices issued by the Yearly Meeting, to do the same things, notwithstanding it has been thought right to advise them not to mix, for that purpose, with the popular associations of the day — By reference to the proceedings of our Yearly Meeting for the last five years or more, copies of which we believe have been sent you and to which we refer you, you will perceive that our Yearly Meeting and Meeting for Sufferings have been far from being idle on this important subject —

In reference to the second charge set out as a cause of separation that of proscription &c. we have only to remark that we have felt ourselves religiously concerned, to proceed to do such duties as were required at our hands, in mildness, tenderness and under the influence of heavenly love and forbearance — And while it is still our concern and prayer, to perform faithfully, firmly and promptly those duties required at our hands in the proper support of our discipline and the good order of the Church, it is in accordance with our desires for ourselves and the advices to our members generally, to proceed cautiously, mildly and tenderly — In the exercise and travail of the Society for the last few years, since the Spirit of over action zeal and insubordination made its appearance, we have esteemed it a special favour of our Heavenly Father and merciful Preserver, that the ministers and other concerned friends from other Yearly Meetings, who have in the prosecution of their religious services visited our Yearly Meeting and participated with us in feeling, have mostly, and so far as we know without exception, approved and sanctioned the advices issued by this Meeting and the Yearly Meeting on the subjects relating to Slavery; and have given united support and assistance in those measures of which the Separatists so loudly complain —

With the salutation of love we remain your friends and brethren
Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting aforesaid
Elijah Coffin Clerk of the present meeting"

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to attend to the subject of a militia bill then pending before the Legislature of Rhode Island report that said bill was not enacted at the last meeting of the Legislature — but as a new organization of the Militia is still agitated in that State the Committee now under appointment with the addition of our friends David Buffum and Moses H. Beede are requested to give attention to the subject on behalf of this meeting —

The subject of making the usual provision for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends David Buffum, William Reynolds, Peter Peck, Joseph Metcalf and Samuel Boyce to give attention thereto and they are authorized to draw from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting $800 — to be appropriated for this purpose — and Rhode Island Monthly Meeting are requested to extend their assistance in aid of the Committee — The Clerk is directed to furnish Rhode Island Mo. Meetg. with a copy of this minute —

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Samuel Boyce $45 46/100 the amount of Alfred Goss' bill for taking care of Boston meeting house for one year, ending 11th mo. last, and sundry expenses connected therewith; and also a bill of William Ives & Co. amounting to $17. for printing 1000 copies of a Memorial to Virginia Legislature and a letter of Benjamin Bates on the subject of performing military services which were distributed by direction of this meeting in 1840 to the members of the Legislature of Massachusetts and other individuals —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th Mo. 10th 1843 — Present 30 members viz Rowland Greene, James Tucker, Abraham Shearman jun. Thomas Howland, Estes Newhall, Francis Taber, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Prince Gardner, Moſes Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, George Howland, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moſes H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jun, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, Nathan Pope and Allen Wing—

The Eſsay presented at our last meeting referring to some of the prominent doctrines and testimonies of our religious society has been now again read and deliberately and solidly considered— and being fully approved and cordially united with the Clerk is directed to record it and lay it before the Yearly Meeting for its consideration and disposal—[See page 9.]

A Testimony from Vaſsalboro' Monthly and Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Benjamin Worth was presented at this time and being approved it was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting—

A Testimony from Greenwich Monthly Meeting, approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our beloved friend Andrew Nichols deceased was presented to us and received our attention and its further consideration was referred to our friends John Meader, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor jun, Peter Peck and Thomas Howland, to present to an adjourned sitting of this Meeting—

The following communication was received at this time viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of New England.

Dear Friends— Whereas twelve or thirteen slaves being likely soon to come into the hands of several friends of this Yearly Meeting by the settlement of an Estate in Miſsouri, and in order that their freedom may be secured to them in the best way and that our christian testimony against Slavery may be faithfully maintained, I have thought proper to apply to your meeting for advice in the case— and remain your friend — — —

West Falmouth, Maſs. 6th mo. 6th 1843.— Stephen Dillingham"

whereupon we appoint William Jenkins, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Metcalf, Rowland Greene, John Meader, George Howland, Abraham Shearman jr and Samuel Boyd Tobey to ascertain more fully the facts and circumstances of the case and report to our adjourned meeting

Adjourned to meet at the close of the sitting of the Yearly Meeting on second day afternoon the 12th inst—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport by adjournment 6 mo: 12th 1843— Present 31 members viz Rowland Greene, James Tucker, Abraham Shearman jr Estes Newhall, Francis Taber, Thomas Anthony, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, Abijah Chace, Caleb Nichols, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Prince Gardner, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, George Howland, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jr Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, Nathan Pope and Allen Wing—

The Testimony concerning our late friend Andrew Nichols produced at our last meeting was again read at this time and being approved was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting—

A Memorial from Sandwich Monthly Meeting approved by Dover Quarterly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Cyrus Beede deceased was read and united with and directed to be forwarded to the Yearly Meeting—

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the communication from our friend Stephen Dillingham report that they have had an interview with him upon the subject; and from all the facts and circumstances now presented to our view we are united in encouraging him to proceed in the case in the way that will be most likely to secure the permanent freedom of those Slaves referred to in his communication and we appoint our friends Allen Wing, George Howland, Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman, John Meader and Samuel Boyd Tobey a Committee with whom he may farther advise should he desire to do so in any future stage of the case—

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned to meet at the close of the sitting of the Yearly Meeting on fifth day afternoon the 15th inst—

"An Essay on some of the prominent Doctrines and Testimonies of Friends—

It is we trust under a living concern for the promotion of the cause of Truth and the preservation of our religious Society in its ancient principles and testimonies that we are engaged to address our fellow members at this time and to offer them the language of encouragement in the words of one of the inspired apostles, to be "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord"–

We believe we may often be profitably engaged in recurring to the rise and progress of our religious Society, and to the profession and practice of those who were led to embrace the doctrines that have continued, from their day to the present time, to distinguish us as a distinct religious people; and we trust that we are prepared with feelings of reverence to acknowledge, that it was through the illumination and power of the Spirit of the Lord that our forefathers were enabled to discover the corruptions that had gained access into the professing church, and were brought into a state of primitive purity, consistent, as we believe, with the spirituality of that dispensation introduced by our blessed Redeemer, and embraced and promulgated by his disciples and early followers–

In the dispensations and direction of the Great Head of the Church very solemn and important are the responsibilities that devolve upon us in the profession and support of those principles and testimonies which had their origin in the unchangeable Truth; and it is only as we are concerned to be found faithful in maintaining them, with uncompromising integrity and singleness of heart, that we may expect the blessing of the Most High to rest upon us.–

We shall find in the history of our Society, that it was the care of early Friends to bear before the world a full and explicit declaration of their faith and belief in the great and all important truths which are the foundation of the Christian's hope; and we believe we may profitably revive the clear and emphatic testimony borne by George Fox in his memorable epistle to the Governor and council of Barbadoes viz.;–

"Whereas many scandalous lies and slanders have been cast upon us, to render us odious; as that we deny God, Christ Jesus and the scriptures of Truth &c.– this is to inform you that all our books and declarations, which for these many years have been published to the world, clearly testify the contrary. Yet, for your satisfaction, we now plainly and sincerely declare that we own and believe in the only wise, omnipotent and everlasting God, the Creator of all things in heaven and earth, and the Preserver of all that he hath made; who is God over all blessed forever; to whom be all honour, glory, dominion, praise and thanksgiving, both now and forevermore;– and we own and believe in Jesus Christ, his beloved and only begotten Son, in whom he is well pleased; who was conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary; in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveneſs of sins; who is the expreſs image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature; by whom were all things created that are in heaven and in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, dominions, principalities or powers; all things were created by him. And we own and believe, that he was made a sacrifice for sin who knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth; that he was crucified for us in the flesh without the gates of Jerusalem; and that he was buried and rose again the third day, by the power of his Father, for our justification; and that he ascended up into Heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God. This Jesus, who was the foundation of the holy prophets and apostles, is our foundation; and we believe there is no other foundation to be laid, than that which is laid, even Christ Jesus; who tasted death for every man, shed his blood for all men, is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world; according as John the Baptist testified of him when he said, 'Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.' John i. 29.- We believe that he alone is our Redeemer and Saviour, the Captain of our Salvation, who saves us from sin as well as from hell and the wrath to come, and destroys the devil and his works: he is the seed of the woman that bruises the serpent's head, to wit, Christ Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last.- He is (as the Scriptures of Truth say of him) our wisdom righteousneſs, justification and redemption; neither is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we may be saved.- He alone is the Shepherd and Bishop of our Souls; he is our Prophet, whom Moſes long since testified of, saying, 'A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you; and it shall come to paſs that every soul that will not hear that Prophet shall be destroyed from among the people.'- Acts. III. 22.23.- He is now come in Spirit, and hath given us an understanding, that we know him that is true.- He rules in our hearts by the law of love and life, and makes us free from the law of sin and death.- We have no life but by him; for he is the quickening Spirit the second Adam, the Lord from heaven, by whose blood we are cleansed and our consciences sprinkled from dead works to serve the living God. He is our Mediator, who makes peace and reconciliation between God offended and us offending; he being the oath of God, the new covenant of light, life, grace and peace, the author and Finisher of our faith.- This Lord Jesus Christ, the heavenly man, the Emanuel, God with us, we all own and believe in; he whom the High Priest raged against, and said he had spoken blasphemy; whom the priests and elders of the Jews took counsel together against, and put to death; the same whom Judas betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, which the priests gave him as a reward for his treason; who also gave large money to the soldiers to broach a horrible lie, namely, 'That his disciples came and stole him away by night while they slept'- After he was risen from the dead the history of the acts of the apostles sets forth how the chief priests and elders persecuted the disciples of this Jesus, for preaching Christ and his resurrection - This we say is that Lord Jesus Christ whom we own to be our life and salvation" -

"Concerning the Holy Scriptures, we believe they were given forth by the Holy Spirit of God, through the holy men of God, who (as the Scripture itself declares, 2 Peter i. 21) 'spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost'- We believe they are to be read, believed and fulfilled, (he that fulfils them is Christ) and they are 'profitable for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works,' - (2 Timothy iii. 16, 17) 'and are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus' - ib. 15.- We believe the Holy Scriptures are the words of God; for it is said in Exodus xx. 1. 'God spake all these words, saying' &c. meaning the ten commandments given forth on Mount Sinai. And in Revelations xx. 18. saith John 'I testify to every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man addeth unto them', 'and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,' [not the word] &c. So in Luke i. 20, - 'Because thou believest not my words'. And in John v. 47, and xv. 7. and xiv. 23, and xii. 47. - So that we call the Holy Scriptures, as Christ, the apostles and holy men of God called them, viz the words of God" - George Fox's Journal, vol. ii.-

To these great and fundamental doctrines of the gospel our forefathers were thus prompt in rendering their unequivocal assent, and in declaring their humble and devoted faith in them; but they clearly saw that, unless the heart believeth unto righteousness, the mouth cannot make confession unto salvation. They felt that there was a danger of so resting on the outward as to neglect that inward and spiritual work which every heart must come to witness in that regeneration without which "no man can enter into the kingdom of God." And among the views which distinguished them from other professors of their time, were those in relation to the perceptible, immediate teaching of the Holy Spirit, and the spirituality of divine worship. They saw that under the Gospel was verified the fulfilment of ancient prophecy:— "After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts; and will be their God and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them." They faithfully received this declaration of our Lord to his disciples— "These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you; but the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."— And they felt that it was only under this teaching and power that we could know our several and distinct duties, and receive ability to discharge them; and they abundantly found in their own experience, that, in seeking this holy help and guidance, they were not following a cunningly-devised fable, but were resting on living, substantial truth.

"Being fully persuaded that man, without the spirit of Christ inwardly revealed, can do nothing to the glory of God, or to effect his own salvation, they believed its divine influence is essentially necessary to the performance of the highest act of which the human mind is capable, even the worship of Almighty God in spirit and in truth." They practically received the plain declaration made by our Saviour to the woman of Samaria at Jacob's well, as to its nature and the mode of its performance, and were brought to see and feel that true and acceptable worship depended not on any human ministration, or in the uttering of any form of words, but in that deep spiritual communion in which we are permitted to draw near unto our Father in heaven, and to experience his holy arising in our hearts. Hence they met together and sought to know their spirits reverently turned unto the Father of Spirits, without depending one upon another for the discharge of this solemn duty; and were often, even amidst much outward persecution, refreshed and comforted together by the visitations of his love, in the overflowing of which it was witnessed to extend as from vessel to vessel.

In close and necessary connection with this view of the performance of divine worship was that which they took of the nature of gospel ministry, and of the indispensable qualification for its right exercise. They believed it to be the sole prerogative of the great Head of the Church to call whomsoever he pleases into his own service, and that directly from him alone can ability be received for the discharge of this high calling to the honour of his cause & the benefit of man. They saw that it is not by any education for the ministry that one can receive from another; not by any human attainment or learning; not by any mere intellectual powers of the natural man; but by the immediate influence of his own Holy Spirit upon his servants and handmaidens that they become qualified acceptably to speak in his name; and that this preparation is to be renewedly witnessed on every occasion in order for a right exercise of this gift that cometh from him; and that as this is humbly waited for and known from season to season, his instruments are enabled to speak to the states of the people, and to receive and hand forth that bread which the Master is pleased to bless and to break –

And also in the solemn duty of prayer they felt the full force of that declaration of Holy Writ, that we know not what to pray for as we ought, but the spirit helpeth our infirmities, making intercessions for us with groanings that cannot be uttered; and they dared not appear in prayer before Him "who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises", except under deep and reverential awe, and as they were moved thereto and directed therein by the immediate influence and assistance of the Holy Ghost.

They saw, too, that there were many ceremonies under the law some of which were practised in the infant state of the church, which were not of perpetual obligation, and in which it was to be feared those that observed them might place dependance, and not come to know the inward work which alone is saving. Among these were baptism by water, and the supper of bread and wine; both of which Friends believed, were but types, of that baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire, and of that spiritual communion with Christ, which all experience and are favoured to be participants of, who, through the efficacy of his power, know old things to be done away, and all to become new and all of him. They received the declaration of the apostle, that the one saving baptism, is not "the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ", which answer only is to be known by the cleansing operations of the Holy Spirit in the heart, bringing it into conformity to the divine will. They believed the true supper that nourisheth unto life is an inward and spiritual partaking of the body and blood of Christ; the practical effects of which are set forth by our beloved Lord; "He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me and I in him."

They bore a faithful testimony against all wars and fightings, as inconsistent with the precepts of Christ and his apostles, and with the nature of his reign whose birth was announced by the angelic anthem, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men", - and also against the taking of oaths, as being plainly prohibited under the gospel - Nor were they less scrupulous in the observance of that simplicity of attire and plainness of speech which so clearly become the followers of him who wore a seamless garment, and was meek and lowly of heart; and thus they exhibited to the world an upright and consistent testimony against its changing fashions and vanities -

These have ever been among the prominent doctrines and testimonies of our religious society. We declare, as we have often heretofore done, our full and heartfelt belief in them, our continued and unwavering adherence to them; but we do not deem it necessary, in addressing our fellow members at this time, to set forth at length the clear and convincing reasons which brought our forefathers into the observance of these practices, or at all to dwell on the evidences given them, that the doctrines which they had received and were concerned to maintain, were none other than the truth as it is in Jesus. We fervently desire that all our members may be fully convinced of this; that all may feel the excellency of the doctrines and testimonies of Friends, and be concerned to be found faithful in supporting them even as they were held and sustained by our forefathers. We exhort our dear friends not to seek after or to adopt any change, however plausible it may appear or from whatever source it may come - The Truth is the same yesterday, to-day and forever; and as we believe George Fox and those in unity with him, were enabled by the in-shinings of the true Light to perceive it, and were favoured with holy help to embrace it, so all those who are truly members of the body will feel that it is their duty to maintain the same views - to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing. May we, beloved friends, be ready at all times to confess to this faith once delivered to the Saints as professed by our forefathers.

May we be not only *satisfied* with our simple mode of worship but count it our *privilege* thus to worship the God of our fathers. May none desire the introduction of any of those formalities, from which our early Friends became freed, and on account of which they suffered much persecution. May none seek for a Ministry which depends in any degree upon human acquirements, or that springs from any other source than the immediate teaching and anointing of the Holy Ghost.

Among the numerous devices of our unwearied adversary to scatter and divide among us, is the introduction of unfounded suspicions and unjust apprehensions, in relation to each other, producing an estrangement of feeling towards the brethren, and a want of that love by which our Lord declared his disciples were to be known. May we, dear friends, watch unto prayer, that we be not taken by this wile of the enemy, and thus separated from that fellowship, which, as members of the body, we are permitted to be partakers of in him who is our holy Head.

It was, we firmly believe, under the immediate influence and direction of the Head of the church, that the discipline was introduced into it; and we are fully sensible that the preservation and prosperity of our religious Society very much depend upon the maintenance of this discipline in the authority that the Truth gives. But very great would be the error, if any should admit in their minds the conclusion, that all who are members have equal weight in the decisions of the church; for they only are qualified to direct in the affairs of truth, who know something of the puttings forth of the heavenly Shepherd, and are enabled to distinguish between his voice and the voice of the stranger. It is for these "in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, without partiality or unnecessary delay," to carry into effect the provisions of that discipline, which in best wisdom has been established amongst us; and none whatever may their age or station, are to be exempted from its impartial exercise, or freed from its wholesome restraints. Very pertinent is the exhortation of our worthy elder brother, George Fox, on this point: "Friends, live in the power of the Lord God, and in his truth, light and life, that by it you may all; with one heart and mind, keep dominion and do true judgment and justice, truth and righteousness in all your men and women's meetings, without favor or affection, to relations, kindred or acquaintances, or any respect of persons". – "For the power of God, his light and truth, respects not any, but justice, truth, righteousness and equity". "Let all your meetings be preserved by the wisdom of God, in the unity of the Spirit, the bond of peace, and in the fellowship of the Holy Ghost; that, being ordered by the pure, gentle, heavenly, peaceable wisdom, easy to be entreated, they may be holy and virtuous examples to all others".

As it is our living engagement to seek after this pure wisdom; as we are concerned to be found faithful in our allotted stations in the church; as our hearts are kept single unto our heavenly Leader; as we seek in sincerity, to know and obey the inward revelations of his holy will, – we are persuaded we shall feel a sweet and cementing unity one with another, and shall experience, individually and collectively, the blessing of preservation". –

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk of the Meeting
for the past year –

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport by adjournment the 15th of 6th month 1843 — Present 23 members viz. Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman jun. Thomas Howland, Estes Newhall, Francis Taber, Joshua Meader, Thomas Anthony, Matthew Purinton William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Caleb Nichols, William Reynolds, John Meader, George Howland, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jun. Edmond Chace and Samuel Boyce —

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the same friends have been appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings as last year, with the exception of our friend Moses Starkey deceased.

We appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey our Clerk for the ensuing year

It is our conclusion that the time and places of holding the stated sittings of this meeting be the same as last year viz at Providence in the 8th and 11th months at the 9th hour in the morng. on the seventh day of the week of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting; and also at Providence in the second month at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meetg. at that place — at East Greenwich in the 5th month on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meetg. there at the 3d hour in the afternoon and at Newport on the seventh day when the Select Yearly Meeting is held at the 5th hour in the afternoon

We have received from the Yearly Meeting the following minute viz.

"At New England Yearly Meeting 6 mo. 1843 —
An Essay on some of the prominent doctrines and testimonies of Friends prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings, was read and was very fully and feelingly united with, and being adopted by this meeting, the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf; and to transmit a copy thereof to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends with which we are in correspondence.
It was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings to cause such number of copies to be printed as they may consider expedient for circulation among Friends and others" —
whereupon we appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey, William Jenkins and John Meader to cause said Essay to be stereotyped and 6000 copies printed — and they are requested to forward them through the Quarterly Meetings to the families of Friends of this Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 8 mo: 5th: 1843 -
Present 15 members viz. Thomas Howland, John Osborne, Wm. Jenkins David Buffum, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meade Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce and Allen Wing -

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to cause the "Essay on some of the prominent doctrines and testimonies of Friends" to be printed agreeably to the direction of the Yearly Meeting report - that they have attended to that service and caused it to be stereotyped and 6000 copies printed which are in progress of distribution among the Quarterly Meetings, and that the expense incurred is $\$125\frac{50}{100}$ - which the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay -

The Committee to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting presented their account of the expense amounting to $\$1034.\frac{60}{100}$ - and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the balance not already authorized by this Meeting - say $\$234\frac{60}{100}$ to Moses H. Beede for the Committee. -

We have received from the Yearly Meeting the following minute viz. "At New England Yearly Meeting 6 mo: 1843 - "The Meeting for Sufferings was authorized to examine the Memorials concerning deceased Friends that have been approved by this Meeting since the publication of Memorials recently issued; and if way should open for it, to have them printed and circulated among Friends" - From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting

Abraham Shearman jun. Clerk"

and it appearing that Memorials concerning our late friends Browning Swift, Benjamin Worth, Cyrus Beede, and Andrew Nichols have been received by the Yearly Meeting since the publication of Memorials - the same are referred for examination with a view to their being printed to our friends Thos. Howland John Meader, John Osborne, David Buffum, William Jenkins and Samuel Boyd Tobey who are requested to report to our next meeting -

A letter from Oliver and Lydia L. Dennett having been received at our last meeting and referred with the documents accompanying it to our friends Thomas Howland, Wm. Jenkins, William Reynolds and Samuel Boyce (members of this meeting) for consideration the said friends have now presented the following report viz. "The Committee named at the last sitting of the Meeting for Sufferings more fully to examine and consider a letter addressed to that body by Oliver and Lydia L. Dennett of Portland, Maine, accompanied by a copy of a writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Stephen Neal, deceased, the probate of which is now pending before a court of law in the State of Maine, soliciting the relinquishment of a contingent bequest of property to be held in trust by the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England for the purpose of educating Friends' children — now report — that, while the Committee on considering the request were not without some doubts as to the constitutional authority of the Meeting for Sufferings to decide for the Yearly Meeting on questions of bequests or devises of property to that body, they are however after a careful investigation of the will and the conditions on which the trust property is to be held and perpetuated impressed with the belief that the Yearly Meeting would decline accepting the trust, even tho' the bequest had been made direct and absolute to the Yearly Meeting and the will had been established — But when the Committee take into view the various contingences awaiting the bequest and the appropriation of the income, and the uncertainty of justly establishing the will they have no doubt that the Yearly Meeting would not only decline acceptance of the trust, but would unhesitatingly relinquish all claim to the management or control of said property —

On behalf of the Committee

Providence 8mo: 5th 1843 Thomas Howland"

which is satisfactory to this Meeting and it is our judgment that under the circumstances the Yearly Meeting would decline to accept said trust — and the Clerk is directed to furnish Oliver and Lydia L. Dennett with a copy of this minute —

The Committee with whom our friend Stephen Dillingham might farther consult in relation to the Slaves that have fallen under his care report that they received the following communication from Stephen, to which they made the annexed reply — which is satisfactory to this meeting viz

"To the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings on the Slave case

Dear friends — Your advice on the following points is particularly requested by me —

1st Admitting the situation of the Slaves alluded to, to be as is now understood — that most of the adults are connected in marriage with Slaves not under the control of myself or the heirs of the Estate; and that the laws of the State of Missouri, almost amounting to a prohibition of their being emancipated there, being such as would entail lasting risk and probably expense on those who liberate them — would you therefore advise that they all be removed to a free State or Government with or without their own consent in the case?—

2d. If it be your judgment that the whole or a part of them be removed, where, from the knowledge you now have, would be the place best adapted to their own happiness and the satisfaction of Friends?—

3. Would you consider under circumstances as they now appear to you, that there was any thing more incumbent on the heirs of the estate in order that our testimony against Slavery may be maintained, than to convey them to some place agreeably to your advice and to grant them their liberty?

From your friend

Newport 6 mo. 15th 1843 — Stephen Dillingham"

"Providence 6 mo. 26th 1843

Dear Friend, Stephen Dillingham

While the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings are not disposed to offer their advice which thou shalt feel to be obligatory on thee, yet they are willing frankly to reply to thy several queries according to the best light and knowledge they have of the subject as now presented to their view —

1st They do think it altogether desirable that the Slaves that have come under thy control should be removed to a free State or Government — and while they are not prepared to recommend the employment of any coercive measures to effect this result, they apprehend it would be thy duty to explain to them fully and clearly the consequences likely to follow their remaining in the State of Missouri, and the advantages that would probably be realized by them by their removal to a free government.—

2d. So far as we now see one of the settlements in Canada spoken of by our friend John Hill, in an interview with thyself and some of us at Newport looks like a desirable location for them

3. We cannot of course be expected to prescribe the amount

of charity that should be dispensed to them after their emancipation and removal to a place of freedom; but probably thou and the heirs would feel it right to put them in a way of obtaining a livelihood by honest industry and frugality — We are thy friends — On behalf of the Committee

George Howland" —

We appoint our friends David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, William Jenkins, Thomas Howland, John Osborne, George Howland Arnold Congdon, John Meader, John D. Lang, Caleb Nichols, Joseph Metcalf and Estes Newhall to render such attention and aſsistance to ministering friends travelling among us from other Yearly Meetings, as may be proper for this Meeting —

Being apprehensive that misrepresentations have been made in relation to the care of Friends respecting the circulation of Books and this Meeting feeling a deep concern as in former time that the books and publications circulated among us should be such as would tend to diffuse a just knowledge of the religious principles of this Society as held by our early Friends the subject claimed our solid consideration and we were united and comforted in the belief that a concern rests on the minds of Friends and that much practical care is exercised in this respect — Further attention to this subject is referred to a future meeting —

The Yearly Meeting having confided to this meeting the subject of memorializing Congreſs, in conjunction with New York Meeting for Sufferings on behalf of the Indians located west of the Miſsiſsippi we appoint our friends Allen Wing, Arnold Congdon, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader and Samuel Boyce to act in conjunction with a Committee of New York Meeting for Sufferings, should way open with them for the appointment of such a Committee, in preparing a suitable eſsay of a memorial to present to our next meeting — and the Clerk of this Meeting is directed to furnish New York Meeting for Sufferings with a copy of this minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 4th of 11th month 1843 — Present 12 members viz. Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman jr, Thos. Anthony

Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, John Meader, Edward Wing, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce and Allen Wing –

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to whom Memorials of several deceased Friends were referred for examination report attention to their appointment and the Testimonies concerni our late beloved friends Benjamin Worth and Cyrus Beede being now read were approved for publication –

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to act in conjunction with a Committee of New York Meetg. for Sufferings in preparing an Essay of a Memorial to Congress in relation to the Indians located west of the Mississippi report that they have attended to the service and have entered into a correspondenc with a Committee of New York Meetg. for Sufferings upon the subjec but are not yet prepared to present an essay to this Meeting – they are continued and requested to report to an adjournme of this Meetg –

The London General Epistle for 1843 was received and read at this time; and in order to effect its general circulation among the families of this Yearly Meeting we appoint our friend Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies to be printed and distributed in the usual proportions to the Quarterly Meetings – and he is authorised to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost –

Adjourned to meet at Providence on third day the 5th of 12th month at one o'clock P. M. –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at Providence the 5th of 12th month 1843 – Present 17 members viz. Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne William Jenkins, David Buffum, Peace Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, John Meader, Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce and Allen Wing –

The Committee to prepare a Memorial to Congress in relation to the Indians located west of the Mississippi Rive presented an essay at this time and reported that they had forwarded a copy of the same to New York Meeting for Sufferings; but that they had not yet heard whether it had been adopted by said Meeting (which was to meet yesterday in New York

The essay proposed is approved by this Meeting and (should it be adopted by the Meeting for Sufferings of New York) the clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf and place it upon record - In order that the concern of Friends may be brought properly before Congreſs we appoint our friends John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor jun. to unite with such friends (if any) as may be appointed by New York Meeting in visiting Washington during the present seſsion of Congreſs to lay said Memorial before the Senate and House of Representatives and to proceed as in best wisdom way may open for in representing before those bodies the grievances to which the Indians are subjected and the probable means of their redreſs -

Memorial to Congreſs -

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congreſs aſsembled — The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meetings of the Society of Friends for New England and New York respectfully showeth - That the Society aforesaid from a sincere desire to promote the best interests of the Aborigines of our country believe it to be their duty to call the attention of the General Government to some of the circumstances attendant upon their present situation -

Your Memorialists have long been religiously engaged for the welfare of this interesting and suffering people, and they think it right to inform you that, during the past year, they have received, through two of their friends who visited many of the Tribes situated west of the Miſsiſsippi, a statement of facts which they have caused to be published, copies of which are herewith presented you, and by which you will perceive that there are several subjects of painful interest that we apprehend demand the serious deliberation and action of Congreſs -

1st. It is evident that ardent spirits are illegally and extensively introduced among them and are producing the most demoralizing and destructive effects -

2d. That the annuities paid to them by Government, under the present arrangement, are productive of very little benefit from the impositions practised by unprincipled and avaricious white men who soon obtain poſseſsion of most or all of the money thus paid them without rendering a just equivalent therefor -

3d That Agriculture and the Arts generally are at present but little attended to and that the Indians greatly need proper direction and aſsistance therein from suitable persons to be located amongst them –

4th That the system of education now pursued might be materially improved and extended especially among the females – and the introduction of native teachers educated among themselves, when they can be obtained, against whom fewer prejudices might exist, would tend to promote this result –

5th We are also induced to call your attention to an apprehension that exists with many of them that they may be again removed from the places where they are now located, producing a state of distrust, not only unfavorable to their agricultural improvements, but evidently fruitful in many other evil consequences; and your memorialists would respectfully suggest that a remedy would be found in a more perfect aſsurance from the Government of permanency in their present homes, and by their receiving a full and adequate guaranty of the title to their lands, where this may not already have been given, and for which many of them are anxiously looking –

We take the liberty to refer you to the published statement before alluded to and to the practical suggestions therein contained — and while we are aware that many salutary laws have been enacted by Congreſs for the preservation of the rights and the promotion of the interests of the Indians, we would respectfully solicit you to ascertain how far those laws and treaty stipulations have been carried into effect – and also what further provisions may be instituted to remove existing abuses and promote the welfare of these sons of the forest, many of whom place their hopes of redreſs with a degree of filial feeling on the President and other constituted authorities of the Government –

We are persuaded that He who "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth" will regard propitiously the paternal care that may be extended to this much injured and suffering claſs of our fellow men and will bleſs those measures that may be adopted and faithfully executed for their benefit –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 1 Mo: 31st 1844
Present 14 members viz. Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, Arnold Congdon, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moſes H. Beede and Samuel Boyce –

The Clerk informs that the following minute has been received from New York Meeting for Sufferings, which is satisfactory to us, and that he has placed on our Records the Memorial to Congreſs presented at our last meeting –

"At the Meeting for Sufferings held in New York the 4th of 12 Mo: 1843. The Committee appointed to join with the Committee of New England Yearly Meeting for Sufferings to prepare a Memorial to Congreſs, produced an eſsay which on consideration was adopted by the Meeting; and the Clerk was authorised to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting if it be approved by the Meeting for Sufferings for New England –

Mahlon Day and John R Willis were appointed to unite with a Committee of New England Yearly Meeting for Sufferings, in presenting the Memorial to Congreſs and give such attention to the subjects of it as appears to be required and way may open for –

Extracted from the Minutes

Henry Hinsdale Clerk –

A Memorial from Greenwich Mo: Meetg. concerning our late friend Andrew Nichols and a Testimony and Memorial from Sandwich Mo: Meetg. respecting our friend Browning Swift were presented by the Committee to whom they had been referred and being read and approved for publication we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon and Joseph Metcalf to cause an edition of 1500 copies of the Memorials read at the last and present meeting to be published in pamphlet form and place them in the hands of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to be disposed of to Friends at cost – and they are authorised to draw on the Treasurer for the expense incurred –

The friend appointed at our last meeting to cause the London General Epistle to be printed reports that he has attended to the service and forwarded the usual number of copies to the several Quarterly Meetings –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5th Mo: 1st 1844.
Present 17 members viz Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, Thos. Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf John Meader, Edward Wing, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce and Allen Wing—

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of the approaching Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends William Reynolds, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce and Peter Peck to attend thereto, and they are authorized to draw $800. from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting and appropriate it for this purpose; and Rhode Island Monthly Meetg. is requested to extend its aid as heretofore to the Committee appointed by this Meeting — The Clerk is requested to furnish said Mo: Meetg. with a copy of this minute—

This Meeting having had under consideration the subject of the circulation of books and publications among us, as appears by minute in the 8th month last, and the Clerk of the Trustees of Obadiah Brown's Benevolent Fund having now furnished us with a list of all the books that have been circulated by them since he has acted as Clerk of said Board (say for the past eight years) it is the sense of this meeting that the same be entered on our Records, with an expression of our desire for the encouragement of the Trustees in thus distributing books and publications calculated to convey a knowledge of the religious principles and testimonies of the Society of Friends and to promote morality and virtue—

The list above referred to is as follows viz

George Fox's Journal 190 copies — Barclay's Apology 1025 — John Woolman's Journal 300 — Doctrines of Friends by E. Bates 900 — Sewell's History 25 — Distinguishing Views of Friends (New York edition) 200 — Daniel Wheeler's Journal 210 — Tuke's principles 500 — Penn's Rise and Progress 50. Thomas Chalkley's Journal 35 — No Cross no Crown 25 — Youthful Piety 800. Mary Dudley 350 — Dymond's Essays on Morality 425 — Evans Exposition 115 Memorials of deceased Friends (published by Meeting for Sufferings) 1000 — Letters on the West Indies 150 — Motts Sketches 300 — Kendall's Letters 100 — Power of Religion 200 — Dymond on War 1000 — Memoir & Life of William Grover 500 — Conversations for Youth 500 — Dell, Phipp and Tuke on the Ordinances and Mary Brooke on Silent waiting 100 — Letters and Memoirs by J. Gurney Bevan 50 — Hancock on Peace 600 — Bibles 750 —

Barclay on Baptism 1000 — Appeal on Slavery (issued by Meetg. for

Sufferings/6000. Addreſs on Slavery/by the Y. Meetg./10.000 – Solemn Review of War 200 – Enoch Lewis on Oaths 500 – Memoir of Martha C. Thomas 1100 – Memoir of Loisa Maw 100 – Memoir of Sarah Knight 100 – Life of Elizabeth Collins 200 – Extracts from Isaac Pennington's writings 1000 – Enoch Lewis on Baptism 300 – Eſsay on Church Government and Civil Government (both iſsued by Meetg. for Sufferings) of each 4500 – Letter to Jas. Backhouse and George W. Walker by a convict on Goat Island 2000 – The Great Audit by Matthew Hale 500 – Extracts from Report of Edwd. Livingston on Capital punishment 500 – Epistle by Meeting for Sufferings 5000 – B. Bate's letter to Virginia Legislature on the Testimony of Friends against war 1000 – Memoir of Deborah Backhouse 250 – Report of a Visit to some of the Tribes of Indians west of the Miſsiſsippi by John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor jun 1000 –

Total bound volumes 10.430 – pamphlets 39.750 –

The Trustees have also contributed to the circulation of Tracts printed by the Tract Aſsociation of Friends in Philadelphia – and to the paper printed at the same place entitled "The Friend" and to the "Friends Library" –

Being apprehensive that by diligent inquiry many interesting and important facts relative to the early settlement and progreſs of Friends in this Yearly Meeting might be obtained, which by delay it may be difficult in future time to rescue from oblivion; and this Meeting being brought under exercise that such facts and circumstances as exhibit the extension of divine regard and protection to our forefathers, (which was in many instances remarkably witneſsed) and their care and concern for the maintenance of our christian principles and testimonies may be preserved for the instruction and encouragement of those of the present and succeeding day, we appoint our friends, John Meader, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, David Buffum, and Joseph Metcalf to take the subject into consideration and report to our next meeting what measures they would propose should be taken to effect the interesting object contemplated, should it appear to them probable that action on our part would be likely to attain the desired end –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th Mo. 15th 1844 –
Present 30 members – viz. Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman jun. Thos. Howland, Estes Newhall, Francis Taber, Thomas Anthony, John Warren, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum,

Abijah Chase, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Prince Gardner, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edward Wing, George Howland, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor, jun. Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, and Nathan Pope—

The Committee appointed at our last meeting in relation to the procuring of ancient documents &c. illustrative of the early history of Friends in this Yy. Meeting made the following report which is satisfactory to us and the subject is accordingly submitted to the consideration and disposal of the Yearly Meeting— viz. "To the Meeting for Sufferings—

"The Committee appointed to take into consideration what measures it might be best to adopt for procuring and preserving such papers, documents and facts as relate to the first rise and progress of Friends and the setting up of meetings, together with the faithful maintenance of the christian doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society within the then limits of New England Yearly Meeting—Report—that they are impressed with the belief that much desirable information connected with the above subject may now be obtained from papers and documents which may ere long be wholly out of our reach, and they would propose that this interesting concern should claim the attention of the Yearly Meeting to be disposed of as may be deemed best— On behalf of the Committee

6th Mo. 15th 1844— John Meader"—

The Committee appointed to cause an edition of 1500 copies of the Memorials of deceased Friends to be printed—report—that they have attended to that service, the cost of which was $43.16. or about three cents per copy. and that they are placed in the hands of the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer (David Buffum) for distribution to Friends at cost—

The Committee appointed in the 12th month last to visit Washington and lay before Congress the Memorial prepared by this and New York Meeting for Sufferings in relation to the Indians made the following report which is acceptable and satisfactory to us viz.

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —— We your Committee appointed to visit Washington on the subject of the Indian Tribes located west of the Mississippi now inform the meeting that we have attended to our appointment and in company with our friends John R. Willis and Mahlon Day, who were appointed by New York Meeting for Sufferings to unite with us in the service, have visited Washington and attended to the duties confided to us as will appear by the following Report, which is in substance the same as that presented by our friends above named to the New York Meeting for Sufferings— The Memorial prepared by the Meetings for Sufferings of New England and New York having been forwarded to the Senate and House of Representatives and by them received and referred to the respective Committees on Indian affairs and a copy of the printed Report of our late visit west of the Miſsiſsippi having been presented to the President and heads of departments and to each member of Congreſs, we proceeded in the second month, in company with the friends before named to Washington to endeavour to accomplish the object of our appointment— We first called upon the Commiſsioner for Indian affairs and told him the purpose of our visit – His views coincided with ours and he remarked that he had three times urged this subject upon the consideration of Congreſs, feeling how neceſsary it had become that something should be done by the Government on behalf of the oppreſsed Indian – He approved of our suggestions and thought if they were faithfully and efficiently carried out they would accomplish the object in view. He promised his aſsistance in any measure which Congreſs might adopt. The suggestions that were made in the several conversations are the following;

First – To prevent by such legal enactments as may be neceſsary the introduction into the Indian country of ardent spirits—

Secondly – To cause a sufficient portion of the country now occupied by the Indians to be surveyed and divided into quarter sections and to give to each family a tract proportioned to the number of individuals it contains securing its poſseſsion to them by patents which shall not be transferrable – It is thought that great advantage will arise from making them owners of certain designated spots which they may settle upon and till, and to which, after a time, they would naturally become attached. We have regarded it as highly important to the welfare of the Indians that they should become agriculturalists, and depend for their means of living upon the cultivation of the earth, rather than upon the uncertain results of the chase – Game has become scarce, and we are informed that they are compelled to roam hundreds of miles in quest of their neceſsary subsistence – This difficulty and the consequent labor and privations are annually increasing and it is obvious therefore that a great point would be gained as regards their happineſs and comfort, if they could be induced to abandon the chase and apply themselves to agricultural pursuits—

Thirdly – To change as far as practicable and with the consent of the Indians, the mode of paying their annuities, giving them blankets, clothing provisions, agricultural implements, &cetera, in lieu of money – By this means these indiſpensable articles would be furnished to them at reasonable prices, and the temptation which now draws around them so many dishonest traders would be materially diminished – It is greatly to be desired that such a change should be made, for we regard the money paid to them by the Government as the great source of the evils under which they labor – These suggestions, the importance of which we hope is felt by Friends, we were encouraged to believe would form the basis of a law to be submitted to Congreſs— It was also proposed that Schools should be established for the education of Indian males and females as teachers; and in the course of our conversations other propositions were made for the consideration of those whose duty it is to prepare the promised bill.—

Our next interview was with the President who received us in the most cordial and affectionate manner. He informed us that he was born and brought up among the Society of Friends, of whose principles he was not ignorant and that as he felt the most implicit confidence in the purity of their motives, believing them to be actuated in their benevolent concerns by no sinister designs, he should listen to our communications in reference to the Aborigines with a perfect aſsurance of their correctneſs— Being apprised of the object of our visit, he told us that he felt a deep interest in the welfare of the Indians and promised his co-operation with the Committee and with Congreſs, in such measures as might be deemed neceſsary. He said likewise that the subject had occasionally engaged his thoughts for a long series of years; and he agreed with us that the time had now arrived when something should be done to meliorate the condition of the poor Indian and protect him from the disgraceful impositions of the whites— He proposed several important alterations of existing laws, and in parting again aſsured us that nothing should be wanting on his part to promote and carry into effect the views and suggestions we had advanced—

At our request the chairman of the Committee of the House of Representatives on Indian affairs called that Com. together and invited the Senate's Com. to meet with them. At the appointed time we waited on those two Committees when our Memorial was read by a member of the House from Pennsylvania— We also produced our credentials— the minutes of our appointment— which were read as also the concluding remarks of the printed report. The subject of the Indians was laid before them and we endeavoured to give them all the neceſsary information regarding the Tribes we had visited— The members of these two Committees expreſsed themselves fully, and some of them feelingly, in favour of taking some decisive steps for the relief of the Indians without further loſs of time; and, on parting, they aſsured us of the great pleasure they had felt on seeing us with them on this long neglected subject, and expreſsed themselves gratified that the Society of Friends had taken it in hand, and that we were enabled to afford them so much and so minute information concerning the aborigines - The whole subject of Indian affairs, is, as is generally known, placed in charge of these two Committees whose busineſs it is to make such recommendations to Congreſs as may be deemed important and neceſsary - They seem now to be convinced that the interference of the Government for the protection of that unfortunate people is imperatively demanded; and that sound policy, the character of the nation, and every consideration of humanity require immediate and effective action -

After this interview we called upon a number of members of Congreſs of both Houses who manifested great interest in this concern - approved of our propositions and promised their aid when it should be needed - As the Indians within the limits of our Territory are specially under the supervision of the war department an interview was obtained with the Secretary of War and he made acquainted with our views as to what ought to be done by our Government without delay - He acknowledged unhesitatingly that some action upon the subject was required and especially that ardent spirits should not be permitted to be carried among the Indians -

Having thus endeavoured to accomplish the busineſs with which we were entrusted we submit to the meeting this account of our proceedings and in conclusion may expreſs our sincere hope and belief that the efforts of Friends in this interesting and important cause may be productive of good - and that they will continue their christian care for them and improve every right opening to appear on their behalf until the present barriers are removed -

(signed) John D. Lang
Newport 6 mo. 14th 1844 - Samuel Taylor jun."

We have received from our friend Stephen Dillingham a communication in relation to the Slaves in the State of Miſsouri which claimed the attention of this Meeting last year; also a copy of a letter addreſsed to Stephen by the Committee of Miami Quarterly Meeting on the concerns of the people of colour dated at Cincinnati 12 mo. 13th 1843 expreſsive of their approbation of his proceedings; both of which are satisfactory to us and the Clerk is directed to place them on file - By these communications it appears that our friend Stephen Dillingham proceeded to St. Louis accompanied by a member of the Committee above referred to and succeeded in effecting the liberation from Slavery of all those colored people that had fallen into his hands in the settlement of an estate within the limits of Miſsouri - all but three of them remaining where they were already located and having their freedom secured to them according to the laws of that State — and the others being taken, with their own consent, to Cincinnati and placed under the care of the African Committee above mentioned residing there —

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the amount of the bill ($39.58) presented by Salem Mo. Meetg. for expenses for care &c of Boston Meetg. house for one year to 2 mo. 10th. 1844 —

A Memorial from Weare Mo. Meetg. approved by Salem Quarterly Meetg. concerning our late valued friend Daniel Gove was received and read and being united with it was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting.

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet at the close of the sitting of the Yearly Meeting on fifth day afternoon the 20th current —

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk
of the Meeting for the past year —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment at Newport the 20th of 6th month 1844 — Present 35 members —

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following Friends have been appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year viz. Rowland Greene, John Warren, Thomas Howland, Abraham Shearman jun. Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Francis Taber, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jun. Edmund Chace, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Joseph Taylor, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker of Tiverton and Charles F. Coffin —

We appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey our Clerk for the ensuing year —

It is concluded that the stated times and places of holding the sittings of this Meeting be the same as last year viz. at Providence in the 8th and 11th months at the 9th hour in the morning of the seventh day of the week of holding Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting; and also at Providence in the 2d mo. at the 3d hour in the afternoon of the day of holding the Select Quarterly meeting at that place — at East Greenwich in the 5th mo. on the day of holding the Select Quarterly Meeting there at the 3d hour in the afternoon, and at Newport on seventh day at the 5th hour in the afternoon — the day of holding the Select Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 8 Mo. 3d 1844. Present 22 members viz. Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, Abraham Shearman jun. Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland and Beriah Collins —

We have received from the Yearly Meeting the following minute viz

"New England Yearly Meeting Minute of 4th day afternoon 6 Mo. 19th 1844

The subject of preserving interesting and important facts relative to the early settlement and progress of Friends in this Yearly Meeting, and the faithful maintenance of the Christian doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society, being brought under our consideration by the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings, Friends of that Meeting now about to be appointed were encouraged to pursue the subject in such manner as they may consider most conducive to the attainment of the object proposed

A. Shearman jr Clerk"

whereupon we appoint Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, John Meader, John D. Lang, Abraham Shearman jr, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, David Buffum, Samuel Taylor jr, Moses H. Beede, Joseph Taber and Nathan Pope to attend to the subject and to endeavour to procure such documents and facts as will promote the desired object and report to this Meeting —

The following Minute is also received from the Yearly Meeting viz.

"Yearly Meeting 6th day morning 6mo. 21st 1844

This Meeting having been brought under concern from an apprehension that there is some diversity of practice in our subordinate Meetings in relation to the administration of the Discipline from a want of entire clearness in the printed Discipline, or definite direction as to the mode of proceeding in its execution, on some heads, and that a more full defining of it in those particulars will tend to the benefit of Society, we refer the subject to the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings, that if way should open for it, they may propose to our Meeting next year, for its consideration, such explanations, alterations or additions as may meet the concern of this Meeting

A. Shearman jr Clerk"

which claimed our deliberate attention and we appoint our friends Thomas Howland, Abraham Shearman jr, John Meader, John Osborne, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, John D. Lang, David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Metcalf and Peter Peck to take the subject into their careful consideration and report to this Meeting what may appear to them proper to meet the concern of the Yearly Meeting

The Committee appointed in the 5th month to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting report the expense incurred by them to be $1452,62/00 — The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the balance not provided for, say $652 62/00 to Moses H. Beede for the Committee —

A Memorial concerning our late beloved friend Huldah B. Hoag was presented to this Meeting and read and we submitted to our friends

Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, John Meader, Abraham Shearman jun.
Moses H. Beede and Samuel Boyd Tobey to be further inspected and presented
to a future Meeting –

This Meeting being brought into concern from an apprehension that from a want of correct information as to the true state of things within our limits by our Brethren of other Yearly Meetings, the precious cause of Truth may suffer, after a season of solid and deliberate consideration we are united in believing that it is a duty incumbent on us to give a brief statement of some of the circumstances that have of latter time brought trial upon the Church within our borders – and the following eſsay of an epistle to the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting being approved the Clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf and forward it to the said Meeting – and he is also requested to forward a copy of the same, with such verbal alterations as may be neceſsary, to the Meetg. for Sufferings of each of the Yearly Meetings that will be held previously to our next stated meeting –

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends — We have felt at this time a concern to addreſs you and in the freedom that the Gospel allows between Brethren, for we realize that we are one people wherever situated, briefly to inform you of some circumstances of a painful nature that have existed and do still exist, to a limited extent, within this Yearly Meeting – apprehending that for want of correct information it is poſsible that some among you may be misled and that the precious cause of Truth may suffer in consequence thereof – and in using this freedom we are strengthened in the remembrance that not many years since you adopted a similar course towards us when one who had been prominent as a Minister among Friends was disowned from our religious Society –

For several years past a spirit, has been manifested among us, which, under the profeſsion of great spirituality and of a concern for the maintenance of the doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society, has refused to listen to the advice of Friends or to be controlled by the Body – and under this specious pretence various steps have been taken at variance with our christian Discipline and the long established order of the Church – Among the individuals that pursued this unwarrantable course was John Wilbur a member of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in the station of a Minister, to whom we think it right for us particularly to allude, as we are aware that the eyes of many in different Yearly Meetings have been turned to him; and we regret to say that from a want, as we apprehend, of a correct knowledge of his case, from some of these he has taken encouragement to maintain a stand in opposition to Friends that has finally resulted in his disownment from our religious Society –

It was under the pretext of supporting sound doctrines that this individual several years since commenced a course which brought uneasiness on the minds of many concerned friends in relation to him. We do not conceive it to be necessary or proper for us at the present time to enter into a minute detail of his offences – We may however state that he indulged in a continued course of detraction in speaking and writing by which the religious character of divers friends in our own and other Yearly Meetings was much misrepresented – On this account and in consequence of the violation of our Discipline in various other respects he was early treated with in private by different Friends – subsequently by a Committee of the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders of which he was a member and afterwards by a Committee of the Yearly Meeting ~~at large~~ appointed on account of the existing state of things among us "to labor for the maintenance of our christian principles and testimonies and the promotion of love and unity among our members" – For several years the most tender and affectionate labor and counsel were extended to him through the channels above indicated without producing any sensible good effect – A determination was openly manifested to resist the advice of Friends and pursue his own way, in which he claimed to have the sympathy and support of several members of different Yearly Meetings – After this long continued, fruitless labor, it being painfully evident that he had placed himself above the judgment of the Body and was wholly disposed to reject the counsel of Friends his case was brought before the Monthly Meeting of which he was a member, and after an appeal by him to the Quarterly and Yearly Meeting has resulted in his disownment from Society by the very united decision of Friends –

While we do not apprehend that any considerable number of our members will be influenced to forsake the bosom of the Church, having thankfully to acknowledge that we have abundant evidence that Friends generally among us are brought into deep sympathy and near unity one with another, and, under a sense of the devastating consequences resulting from the spirit that we have spoken of, are concerned to eschew it, yet we have been brought deeply to mourn for some of our own members whose feet have become somewhat entangled in the snare that has been spread for them and also on account of some who have been with us from other

Yearly Meetings, whose course, we apprehend, has contributed to foster and encourage, in some degree, this disposition that sets at naught the judgment of the Body and the counsel of Friends.

Dear Brethren — the present is a season of trial with us for the Truth's sake. It is for the support of right order in the Church — of that subordination of inferior to superior meetings — of individuals to the Body — and of all to Christ the alone Head, which has been felt to be essential in our christian organization that this exercise rests upon us — We do firmly believe however, and it is we trust with humble thankfulness we declare it, — that the great body of Friends of this Yearly Meeting are bound "to the law and to the testimony" — and we fervently desire that it may continue to be the engagement both of you and of us to look unto Him who is "for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate" that we may still witness preservation and the maintenance of the ancient principles and testimonies of our Society in that life and purity in which they were held and supported by our forefathers and worthy predecessors in the Truth, who were faithful in their day, and who, we reverently believe, have received that crown of righteousness which is laid up for all them that love the appearing of the Lord — the righteous Judge —

With the salutation of love we are your friends —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 11 mo: 9th 1844 — Present 25 members viz Rowland Greene, Abm Shearman Jun, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thos Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Arnold Congdon, George Howland, Saml Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins and Olney Thompson —

The London General Epistle of the present year was read at this time and was satisfactory to us; and in order that Friends generally may have the benefit of the salutary counsel contained in it we appoint our friend Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded in the usual proportions to the several Quarterly Meetings — and he is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost —

A communication was received at this time from the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting dated 9mo. 6th 1844 with an accompanying pamphlet iſsued by said Yearly Meeting entitled "An Appeal on the iniquity of Slavery and the Slave Trade" which were read and received our deliberate and solid attention; the further consideration thereof is referred to our friends Abm. Shearman jun., John Meader, William Jenkins, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Joseph Metcalf and Thomas Anthony, who are requested to report to our next Meeting their judgment as to the farther proper disposition of the subject by us — and the Clerk is directed to communicate to London Meeting for Sufferings on our behalf the substance of the foregoing minute —

Several subjects connected with the best interests of Society having claimed our solid consideration and believing that farther action in relation to some of them on the part of this Meeting may be proper previous to the time of our next stated meeting we conclude to adjourn to meet in this place on sixth day the 6th of 12th month at 11 o'clock A. M. —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, by adjournment 12th Month 6th 1844 — Present 24 members viz
Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman Jr, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum Abijah Chace, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moſes Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, and Olney Thompson

This Meeting having become poſseſsed of the painful information that within the limits of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting a ~~division~~ secession from Friends has taken place, to a limited extent in each of the Monthly Meetings, and also in the Q.y Mtg., the subject claimed our solid consideration; and we were brought deeply to feel, under the circumstances, the responsibility devolving upon this Meeting according to its original organization — and believing that some action is required of us in order to give information to Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting of the schism that has taken place in Society and to guard the several meetings of Discipline from inadvertently receiving documents that may be iſsued by the meetings of the Separatists, we appoint our friends Rowland Greene, John D. Lang, Abraham Shearman Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, John Meader, David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, Peter Peck, William Jenkins and Nathan Pope to prepare an eſsay of a communication to the Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings within the limits of this Y.M. Meeting and present it to an adjourned sitting of this meetg.—

Adjourned to half past 3 o'clock this afternoon—

Afternoon met by adjournment—

The Committee appointed this morning presented the following eſsay of a communication to subordinate meetings which being fully considered was united with and the Clerk directed to sign it on our behalf and cause a sufficient number to be printed to furnish the several meetings with copies thereof and draw on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer for the cost—

The following Friends being proposed as Correspondents we appoint them to act, until the time of our next Yearly Meeting, for the respective meetings designated, in signing all documents iſsued by said meetings to Friends within the limits of this Y.M. Meetg. in addition to the usual signing by the Clerks viz

For Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting—Thomas Howland
" Rhode Island Monthly Meeting —Jethro F. Mitchell
" Greenwich Monthly Meeting — Rowland Greene
" Swanzey Monthly Meeting — Oliver Earle
" Providence Monthly Meeting — Samuel Boyd Tobey

"To the Preparative, Monthly and Quarterly Meetings of Friends within the limits of New England Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends— In the discharge of the important duties devolving upon this Meeting, in the receſs of the Yearly Meeting, we feel it to be incumbent on us at this time to addreſs you, and inform you of some of the deeply painful circumstances that have transpired in Society since our last Yearly Meeting, in the progreſs of that separating spirit that is producing divisions among us.

In Swanzey Monthly Meeting for a long time past there has been a want of that love and unity which are eſsential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth— More than two years since, Committees were appointed in that meeting to propose the names of Clerks and Overseers of Society, but they were unable to agree upon Friends for those stations— The state of this meeting had claimed the attention of the

Yearly Meeting's Committee, and also of a Committee of Rhode Island Qy Meeting, previous to our last Yearly Meeting; and much labor had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing difficulties and to produce that organization of the meeting that would enable it to carry into effect the Discipline the administration of which had been seriously interrupted —

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting "to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require and way open for," with a number of the Qy Meeting's Committee then under appointment, met with these two Committees of the Monthly Meeting in the 7th month and united with a part of them in their proposing to the meeting the names of certain friends for Clerk, and overseers — With the exception of two or three individuals, all the members of these Committees of the Monthly Meeting either united with the names proposed or expressed their acquiescence therein. They were accordingly reported by those Committees to the Monthly Meeting, and the report was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. A few individuals opposed it, and the Clerk, who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the meeting; although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meeting's Committee in attendance. The condition of this meeting as it then stood was presented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month, which again appointed a Committee to visit Swansey Monthly Meeting and assist in its due organization, that our christian discipline might be supported as in former days, to the honor of Truth —

At the following Monthly Meeting, the individual who had previously acted as Clerk still persisting in attempting to hold that station contrary to the fully expressed sense of the meeting and of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meeting's Com. — and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time (with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last meeting) united in the appointment as Clerk of the friend who had been selected at the previous meeting, he proceeded to open the meeting, and the Representatives from all the Preparative Meetings presented to him the Reports from those meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. Notwithstanding this decision of the meeting, the former Clerk continued to sit at the table and to form and read minutes; and to prevent confusion, Friends, after having read the minute of the Quarterly Meetg. appointing its Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon – by far the larger part of the men's meeting and all the women withdrawing from the house and mostly again assembling at the hour of adjournment to transact the business of the meeting – The persons who sustained the former Clerk in his decision against the judgment of the meeting, with several women who were also disaffected towards Society, continued to hold what they call Monthly Meetings, and at Rhode Island Qy Meetg. in the 11th mo. they presented an account purporting to come from Swansey Mo. Meetg., which was not received or in any way acknowledged. After the business of the Qy Meetg. was concluded, these individuals with a few from the other Monthly Meetings, both men and women, most of whom had for a length of time openly manifested a want of unity with Friends, remained in the house and called themselves Rhode Island Qy Meetg., appointing Clerks and a Committee to visit subordinate meetings – This Committee thus appointed has since visited the Mo. Meetings and attempted to sit in them and to be recognized as a Committee from the Qy Meetg. organized as we have described in a wholly unprecedented and irregular manner. Most of them being already under dealing as offenders in their respective Monthly Meetings and refusing to leave Friends select, for the support of our Discipline, adjournment has been resorted to in order to be freed from this intrusion – A few individuals have been found in each of the Mo. Meetgs. in Rhode Island Quarter who, being disaffected towards the body of Friends, have, under the advisement of this Committee united in forming what they denominate Monthly Meetings, assuming to themselves the names of those meetings respectively –

Thus, dear friends, a division in Society has taken place within the limits of Rhode Island Qy Meetg.; but we are comforted in being able to state that the great body of Friends remain united together, concerned for the support of the ancient principles, testimonies and discipline of our religious Society –

The *cause* of this schism we apprehend is to be found in a spirit of disaffection and desire for individual liberty that is not willing to submit to that necessary subordination, recognized in our Discipline, of inferior to superior meetings, and of each member to the body, which has ever been found essential to the welfare and preservation of our religious Society –

Attempts are strenuously made by the Separatists to fasten upon the Yearly Meeting, and those who do not unite with them, a charge of unsoundness in our fundamental principles – an accusation which we are fully assured is entirely unfounded in fact – as we have abundant evidence of the unabated concern of Friends to maintain inviolate the ancient doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society as professed and sustained by our worthy predecessors in the Truth and to support our christian Discipline.

As a manifestation of the care of Friends to hold up to view those Gospel Truths which we do most solemnly believe and which have ever been received by us as a people we would refer to divers documents that have been issued by the Yearly Meeting or Meeting for Sufferings within the past few years, in which Friends are exhorted not only to hold fast to those ancient and established principles and testimonies of our Society, but faithfully cautioned against giving any countenance to the receiving or spreading of unsound doctrines, either by reading or circulating books containing them or otherwise – The documents to which we specially allude are "a Minute of the Yearly Meeting" in 1836 – "An Epistle to the members of the Society of Friends of New England Yearly Meeting from the Meeting for Sufferings" in 1838 – The Introduction to the "Memorials of deceased Friends" published in 1841, as well as the Appendix thereto, being a reprint of "the Testimony of the Society of Friends on the Continent of America" – and "An Essay on some of the prominent doctrines and Testimonies of Friends", issued by the Yearly Meeting in 1843 –

These candid, full and explicit declarations, and the continued care that has been manifested by Friends individually to observe the recommendation contained in them, leave those without excuse who still persist in charging upon Society a dereliction from the principles of our predecessors in religious profession –

Efforts, we have cause to believe, are exerted in other Yearly Meetings to extend the spirit of disaffection and to produce divisions among Friends – and these efforts are often masked under the very plausible pretext of a concern for the support of the ancient principles and testimonies of our religious Society – We feel it to be our duty affectionately to entreat and solemnly to warn Friends to beware of being taken in the snare that is spread for them – Brethren – be not deceived – May the great Head of the Church in his mercy still condescend to watch over and direct us as individuals and as a body, that we may be preserved from falling.

In order that no embarrassment may be experienced by Friends in determining what meetings are in unity with the Society we have appointed the following correspondents to act until the time of our next Yearly Meeting, by whom all documents issued by their respective meetings are to be signed, in addition to the usual signatures of the Clerks; and any paper purporting to come from either of those meetings not signed by the appointed correspondent, should be deemed as spurious viz

For Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting — Thomas Howland
For Rhode Island Monthly Meeting — Jethro F. Mitchell
For Greenwich Monthly Meeting — Rowland Greene
For Swanzey Monthly Meeting — Oliver Earle
For Providence Monthly Meeting — Samuel Boyd Tobey

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting held at Providence, by adjournment, the 6th of 12 mo. 1844

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

We have received from Indiana Meeting for Sufferings the following communication and we are introduced into feelings of commiseration and sympathy for the situation of the Indian Tribes referred to therein and Friends of this Meeting now present are requested to solicit subscriptions from Friends in their respective neighborhoods and transmit the amount thus collected to Samuel Boyd Tobey to be by him forwarded for the relief of the Indians in the manner designated —

"At a Meetg. for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting held at Whitewater near Richmond, Wayne Co. Indiana 10th mo. 8th 1844

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends — By a Minute from the Yearly Meetg. now sitting we are informed that information has reached that body, that several Indian tribes west of the Miſsiſsippi were in a very distressed condition — that in consequence of the unusually wet season, and the great rise in the waters a famine is likely to ensue — the floods having in several instances swept away their cribs of corn and carried away many of their dwellings — The frequent rains together with the high waters have prevented their making a crop of corn the present season — from these causes some are already reduced to very great extremities and unparalleled suffering must be the lot of many more, unleſs timely relief be afforded — The Yearly Meeting ordered a subscription by which some money was raised and directed to the care of the Indian Committee to be disbursed in the manner best suited to afford the sufferers some temporary relief — the Y. Meetg. also gave directions to the quarters to open subscriptions to obtain more; and directed this meeting to transmit some account of the aforesaid suffering condition of the Indians to each of the other Meetings for Sufferings in America — Extracted from the Minutes of the Meeting aforesaid ——— Thomas Evans Clerk

P.S. One of the members of the Indian Committee has given up to go to our School establishment among the Shawnees, for the purpose of superintending all supplies and directing them to the intended objects, so as to make them productive of the greatest amount of good. He expects to continue there during the coming winter, or so long as his services in that way shall be necessary. His calculation is to purchase supplies down the river and then direct them to the sufferers. Funds on Cincinnati, Baltimore or Philadelphia can be drawn at West Port by Thomas Wells, the friend who has gone to act as agent in this matter on behalf of the Committee, if he be informed of the deposite and authorized to draw for the same. This will supersede the necessity of sending funds by mail or other conveyance.

Address Thomas Wells, West Port, Jackson Co. Missouri. J. E."

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 mo. 5th. 1845.
Present 18 members viz Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chace, Saml. Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson and Abraham Barker.

Samuel Boyd Tobey reports that he has received from various sources $300. and forwarded the same to Thos. Wells as requested by Indiana Meeting for Sufferings, for the relief of the Indians west of the Mississippi.

The state of our religious Society within some portions of this Yearly Meeting claiming our weighty and deliberate consideration at the present time and the query solemnly arising what is required of us in the recess of the Yy Meeting in order for the preservation of Friends, so far as this may be effected by their being possessed of correct information, we have believed it to be incumbent upon us to give general circulation to the substance of the communications in relation thereto issued by this Meeting in the 8th and 12th months of last year; and painful as is the duty of exposing the course of an erring brother, yet for the clearing of Truth we feel bound very briefly to allude to it that Friends who have not been acquainted with the circumstances that have transpired may not be deceived by statements inconsistent with facts. And the Clerk is directed, with the aid of our friends, William Jenkins, Saml. Boyce and John Meader, with the foregoing as an introductory minute, to cause to be printed and freely distributed an edition of the communications alluded to signed on our behalf, addressed to Friends of New-England Yearly Meeting and elsewhere and to append thereto the following minute viz. In reviving these documents at the present time we believe it right to reiterate what has been already fully declared that this division in Society has not arisen from any defection of Friends on points of doctrine — that they have never been at issue in the case — that, notwithstanding the charges that have been preferred against us by John Wilbur and his adherents, we know of no change in the views of Friends or in their practice from the ancient doctrines and discipline of our religious Society — but on the contrary we are unshaken in the belief that the principles and testimonies which our forefathers saw to be according to the Truth as it is in Jesus and which they were raised up and strengthened to bear before the world continue to be unabatedly dear and precious to us — and that an undiminished concern rests upon Friends to maintain them faithfully as they were held and supported by our worthy predecessors George Fox, Robert Barclay, William Penn, George Whitehead, Isaac Penington and all those dedicated servants of Christ in unity with them — nor do we receive any doctrines from whatever source they may emanate that are not in accordance with the Truths of the Gospel as professed by them — Earnestly craving that Friends everywhere may witness preservation on the Rock of Ages and that the Truth may prosper among us we fervently commend us all unto God and the word of His Grace which is able to build us up and give us an inheritance among them that are sanctified —

The Clerk is directed to forward a copy of the foregoing document to each of the Meetings for Sufferings of Friends and to address to them the following communication signed on our behalf viz

Dear Friends — In the discharge of the trust assigned to this Meeting in the recess of the Yearly Meeting according to its original organization, the painful duty devolves upon us of informing you of a division that has taken place in our religious Society to a limited extent, in Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, a branch of New England Y. Meetg. and we transmit for your information the accompanying document, being the substance of two communications issued by this Meeting since our last Yearly Meetg. together with minutes made at this time — In so doing we would express our earnest desire that the feelings of love and sympathy which have so eminently distinguished us as a religious brotherhood — bound together as one people wherever situated — may continue as in ancient days — and that He who is Head over all things unto His Church may be graciously pleased still to own and preserve us and enable us to bring forth fruits unto His praise —

With the salutation of love we are your friends —

The subject of the annexation of Texas to the United States now pending before Congreſs claimed our deliberate consideration and in view of the evils that may result from such a measure we have believed it to be our duty to memorialize the Senate in relation thereto and the following eſsay of a communication to that body being approved the Clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf and forward it to the Senate of the United States —

To the Senate of the United States

"The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in New-England respectfully showeth — That we have viewed with deep solicitude the proposition now pending before Congreſs, and which has already paſsed the House of Representatives for the annexation of Texas to the United States — and in the discharge of what we believe to be our religious duty we are induced respectfully but most earnestly to remonstrate with you against this measure.

We are painfully impreſsed with a solemn conviction that the consummation of this proposition will not fail to involve our beloved country in consequences of momentous import —

You are well aware that by the Society of Friends and by very many others of your constituents the holding of our fellow men in bondage is deemed an evil of great magnitude and that they regard any measure that may extend and perpetuate it as wholly at variance with the laws of humanity and inconsistent with the precepts of the christian religion — That the annexation of Texas is calculated to produce this effect we cannot doubt, and we are also fearfully apprehensive that it may involve us in the multiplied evils and miseries of war, and unfavorably effect the harmony of the Union —

It is to the Senate of the United States that the eyes of many in this nation are now turned with the most anxious solicitude, as to the great conservative power which under Providence may avert those calamities that now threaten our country — and we earnestly crave that you may *fearleſsly do right* and refuse to sanction any measure that shall tend to perpetuate Slavery or by any probability involve us in the horrors of war —

By faithfully interposing the constitutional shield of your authority and thus preventing the evils to which we have referred we are fully aſsured that you will receive the smiles of Him who regardeth the cries of the poor and the sighs of the needy and that the bleſsing of thousands will rest upon you"—

The Committee to whom was referred in the 8th month the memoir concerning our late beloved friend Huldah B. Hoag reported that they had attended to their appointment, and the Memoir being now again read it was approved by this Meeting for publication –

At a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence the 8th of 4th month 1845 –

Present 22 members viz. Abraham Shearman Jr, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Saml. Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Olney Thompson and Abraham Barker –

The Clerk informs that he had received the following communication and in conformity therewith had called the present meeting viz

"To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings –

Thou art hereby requested to call a Special meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings for the consideration of the present difficulty arising from the division in Society that has taken place within Swansey Mo. Meeting and such other subjects as may require the attention of the Meeting – and we would propose that it should be held on third day the 8th of 4th month at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at Providence —— (signed) Rowland Greene

Abm. Shearman Jr

Providence 3 mo. 4th 1845

Edward Wing

Joseph Metcalf

William Reynolds

William Jenkins

Edmond Chace

David Buffum

Olney Thompson

John Meader"

By information now presented to us it appears that suits at law have been commenced by those who have separated from our religious Society in Swansey Monthly Meeting in order to gain possession of property within the limits of that Meeting belonging to the Society and it appearing that the meeting house lot at Fall River was granted originally to Jonathan Chace, Benjamin Slade and Reuben Chace (all deceased) to hold in trust for the Monthly Mtg. and that they or their heirs were by said deed directed to convey the same as they shall be required by the Yearly, Quarterly or said Monthly Meeting, or either of their Committees, so that the same may be enjoyed by the members of the said Mo. Meetg. in unity with the Yearly Meeting for New England — we do therefore on behalf of the Yearly Meeting request and direct the heirs aforesaid to convey the said land to Oliver Earle, Simpson Buffinton, Theophilus Shove, David Shove, Jonathan Freeborn and Edmond Chace, the present overseers of Swanzey Monthly Meeting to be by them held or their succeſsors in office for the use and benefit of said meeting in unity with New England Yy Meeting agreeably to the tenor of the deed — and the Clerk is authorised to furnish such copy or copies of this minute as may be required and to give any further attention to the subject that may be neceſsary for him as Clerk of this Meeting —

In order for the right conducting of the defence of Friends in those suits at law now commenced against them we appoint our friends John Osborne, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, John Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Peter Peck, George Howland, William Jenkins, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Thomas Howland and Estes Newhall to give special attention thereto, with whom Friends of Swanzey Mo. Meetg. may consult and advise — and they are authorised to employ such legal counsel and take such steps in the premises as they may deem proper, and draw from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting such sums as may from time to time be required — and our friends Stephen A. Chase and Jervis Shove (not members of this Meeting) having already rendered very acceptable service in the case are requested to continue their attention thereto — and the Clerk is desired to communicate to them this information —

It appearing that copies from the Records of Swanzey Mo. Meetg. and Rhode Island Qy. Meetg. and also of this and the Yearly Meeting may be required in the progreſs of the case, it is the judgment of this Meeting that it will be proper for the Clerks of those meetings to furnish such copies, or under suitable care, the Records themselves should they be neceſsary —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 4 Mo. 30 — 1845

Present 18 members viz Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman Jr. Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, and Olney Thompson and Beriah Collins —

The Clerk presented a letter received from Thomas Wells acknowledging gratefully the receipt of the money forwarded by this Meeting for the relief of the Indians west of the Mississippi - which he is directed to place on file -

The subject of providing for the accommodation of the approaching Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends Joseph Metcalf, William Reynolds, David Buffum, Beriah Collins Samuel Boyce, Moses H. Beede, Olney Thompson, Edmond Chace and Timothy C. Collins to make the requisite provision and take the necessary care - and they are authorized to draw from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting $800. and appropriate it to to this purpose - Rhode Island Monthly Meeting is requested to extend its aid as heretofore - and the clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute -

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the bill of Alfred Goss ($15.) for his care of our meeting house in Boston from 1 Mo. 1st 1844 to 1st Mo. 1st 1845 -

A Testimony from Sandwich Monthly Meeting (N. Hampshire) approved by Dover Q. Y. Meeting concerning our late valued friend Huldah B. Hoag was read at this time - and the clerk is directed to lay the same before the Y. Y. Meeting -

---

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6 Mo. 14th 1845 -
Present 32 members viz Rowland Greene, John Warren, Abm. Shearman, Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjn. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr., Edmond Chace, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Joseph Taylor, Beriah Collins and Olney Thompson -

We have at this Meeting the acceptable company of our friend John Pease from Great Britain, with his companion Samuel Hilles from Wilmington and of several members of New York Meeting for Sufferings

Having spent some time in the consideration of subjects connected with the general interests of Society we now adjourn to meet on third day eveng. next the 17th inst. at 8 o'clock -

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held by adjournment 6 Mo. 17th 1845 -
Present 33 members -

The following minute of the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yy Meeting was read at this time and there was a full expression of unity therewith and with the concern therein expressed – and we have present with us at this time to our strength and comfort of the Committee named in that minute our dear friends Thos. Willis, James Brown Richd. Mott, Richd. Carpenter, Mahlon Day and William F. Mott – We have also again most acceptably with us our beloved friends John Pease, James Jordan and Samuel Willis –

"At a special meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings held in New York the 30th day of 5th Mo. 1845 –

A proposition was spread before the Meeting to enter into a consideration of the state of the Society on this Continent, with a view to the appointment of a Committee of this meeting for the purpose, if way should open for it, of corresponding or conferring with other meetings for Sufferings on such subjects of difficulty as may present, which affect the harmony and prosperity of the body at large –

This was felt to be a serious and very important proposition; and after a free and full expression of sentiments, it appeared to be the sense of this meeting that a Committee be now appointed to correspond or confer as proposed, with other Meetings for Sufferings, or their Committees, particularly that of New England – and Thomas Willis, James Brown, Richard Mott, Isaac Thorne, Richd. Carpenter, William Bridsall, Mahlon Day and William F. Mott were appointed to attend to the service as way may open for it – Extract from the Minutes

Henry Hinsdale Clerk" –

We have received from our dear friends of Indiana Meeting for Sufferings the following epistle which, together with their communication ~~from~~ to their inferior meetings is truly acceptable and satisfactory to us –

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting –

Dear Friends – Your Epistle of the 2nd month last has been received and read in this meeting, also your address "To Friends of New England Yearly Meeting and elsewhere" issued by you bearing same date – The package of copies of the same which was sent by you has also come to hand, and our meeting has directed them to be divided among our Quarters for distribution, for the information of our members generally, with directions for one to be read in the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings within the limits of the Yearly Meeting –

It has been cause of mourning to us that any of our dear friends should so far give way to a spirit of insubordination as to produce a separation in our Society – such separations having a tendency as we believe, to weaken the faith of those who are not well established, to cause the Truth to be evil spoken of by its enemies, and to produce many sad consequences at variance with the peace and harmony of Society and the prosperity and advancement of the blessed Truth—

We sympathise with you in your trials, and desire that you may be favoured to dwell under the influence of Gospel love in all your labors with them, and thus in the meekness of wisdom be instrumental in bringing them back to the bosom of Society, in which they may submit themselves to the wholesome order and government thereof— "The meek will he guide in judgment— the meek will he teach his way"—

We notice with satisfaction that you express a firm belief in the doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society as held by our early friends— These doctrines are very precious to us; and in view of the many errors on the left hand and on the right, we greatly desire for ourselves and for you to guard against every thing that will lessen our esteem for them; believing that our early Friends were favoured to see clearly the way to salvation by the Cross; and that by obedience to the admonitions of divine truth made known in their hearts they were preserved out of speculation and drawn out of the infidelity and ways of the world and the formal ministry and worship so common in their day— The present time calls loudly to us to endeavour to experience an establishment on the one Rock, Christ Jesus our Lord that we may not be carried off with any of the speculations of our times—

In conclusion, dear friends, we commend you to God and to the word of his Grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified—

Signed on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held by adjournments from the 5th to the 7th of the 6th Mo: 1845—

Thomas Evans Clerk—

P.S. On next page we send you a copy of our minute of advice issued by us to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings in the limits of our Yearly Meeting to accompany your address to Friends of New England and elsewhere"

"To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings within the limits of Indiana Yearly Meeting— Dear Friends— We have been officially informed by our dear friends of the Meeting for Sufferings in New England that a separation from our religious society has taken place in that Yearly Meeting, by a part of the members of Rhode Island Quarter— The event gives us much pain; and while we look on what has occurred with deep sorrow, we are disposed to take solemn warnings therefrom ourselves and affectionately to warn our dear friends of our Yearly Meeting; being well convinced that the spirit of separation which is abroad in the world is the work of the enemy of all good and is directly at variance with the work of righteousness, which is peace, and the effect thereof quietness and assurance forever – whereas the effect of the separating spirit is attended by consequences very destructive of the harmony of Society and the peace and happiness of its members – Let us therefore dwell in the quiet with a single eye to the Prince of Peace for his preservation and meddle not with that which may defile – let us keep aloof from that which engenders strifes or leads to self confidence or self exaltation – By seeking to abide in faithfulness under the influence of the ever blessed Spirit in our daily walk and experience we believe we shall be favoured with preservation from right hand errors as well as left, for under the dominion of the Gospel of Christ there shall be no hurting nor destroying in all the Lord's holy mountain – We are also concerned to be on our guard against hurtful publications; such on the one hand, as might have a tendency to lessen our esteem for the Holy Scriptures, or weaken our faith in the divinity, atonement, sacrifice and mediation of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ – and on the other hand such as would exalt the Scriptures above the Spirit that gave them forth, induce a dependance in any worship which is performed in the will and wisdom of man without the immediate aid of the Holy Spirit – or the exercise of the ministry under any other qualification than that afforded by its free and immediate influence and teachings; and also such as are calculated to engender strife and promote discord amongst brethren – or afford any encouragement to a separating Spirit; believing that the effects of all such must be pernicious – But instead thereof we would desire for ourselves, and affectionately recommend to our friends the careful and daily perusal of the Holy Scriptures, and the diligent reading of the writings of our early friends as being calculated to procure peace and instruction to our minds, inform and establish us in the doctrines of the Gospel increase our love to God and man, and promote the work of Righteousness, unity and brotherly love in Society –

From the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting held by adjournment from the 5th to the 7th of the 6th mo. 1845 and signed on behalf thereof – – – Thomas Evans Clerk"

The Committee to whom was referred the minute of the Yearly Meeting concerning some revision of our Discipline report that they have not been unmindful of their appointment, but under the circumstances in which our Society has been placed during the past year they have not proceeded so far as to be prepared to make any definite propositions to the Meeting—

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of this Meeting—

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport by adjournment the 21st of 6th month 1845 — Present 28 members viz Rowland Greene John Warren, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Peter Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jun. Edmund Chace, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Tabor, Joseph Taylor, Beriah Collins and Lemuel Jones —

By the Assistant Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the friends who constituted a Meeting for Sufferings last year are again appointed by the Yearly Meeting for that service with the exception of our late beloved friend Thomas Howland and the addition of our friend Lemuel Jones —

We appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey our Clerk for the ensuing year —

It is concluded that the stated times and places of holding this Meeting be the same as last year viz at Providence in the 8th and 11th months on seventh day after the first fifth day at 9 o'clock A.M. and at Providence in the 2nd month on fourth day before the first fifth day at 3 o'clock P.M. — at East Greenwich in the 5th month on fourth day before the first fifth day at 3 o'clock P.M. and at Newport on seventh day preceding the Yearly Meeting at 5 o'clock in the afternoon —

We have again at this meeting the very acceptable company of the same dear friends from other Yearly Meetings as at our last meeting with the exception of our friend James Jordan —

The subject of the present situation of our religious Society in divers respects both in our own and other Yearly Meetings claiming our solid consideration, and the Yearly Meeting having at this time encouraged this Meeting to correspond or confer with New York and other Meetings for Sufferings if way should open for it, after a season of deliberation we are united in appointing a Committee who are desired to give their attention to any subject connected with the general and common interests of Society, under the direction of best Wisdom, that they may from time to time find to rest upon them — and we appoint our friends Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyce ~~and~~ George Howland, and Peter Peck for this service —

The Clerk is directed to inform New York Meetg. for Sufferings of the acceptable attendance of their Committee at the several sittings of this Meeting during the present Yy Meetg. and also of our appointment of a Committee as specified in the above minute —

Adjourned to meet at Providence on third day the 1st of 7th month at 2 o'clock P.M.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment the 1st of 7th month 1845 — Present 13 members viz. Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Saml. Boyd Tobey, Olney Thompson and Abraham Barker —

The Committee to provide for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting reported the expense incurred to be $\$2010\frac{57}{100}$ — The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the balance not already provided for (say $\$1210\frac{57}{100}$) to Moſes H. Beede for the Committee —

The Yearly Meeting having prepared an Epistle to its subordinate meetings and the individual members of the Society — a declaration of the continued Faith of the Society and a Narration of Facts connected with the seceſsion in New England Yearly Meeting — and referred the printing and distribution of them to this meeting we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Peter Peck, William Jenkins, John Meader and Olney Thompson to cause an edition of 20.000 of each to be printed and distributed in our own and the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 8 mo: 9th 1845 —
Present 13 members viz. Abraham Shearman, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, John Howland and Olney Thompson —

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to have printed and distributed the documents iſsued by the Yearly Meeting report that they have attended to their appointment —

The Clerk is directed to forward the names of the correspondents appointed at our late Yearly Meeting to the Meetings for Sufferings of Baltimore, North Carolina, Philadelphia and New York Yearly Meetings, as some time will elapse previous to the occurrence of those Meetings and embarraſsment might arise within their limits from a want of this information —

The Clerk is directed to forward a suitable number of copies of the documents iſsued by our Yearly Meeting to the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting for the information of Friends —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 11 mo: 8th 1845
Present 15 members viz Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman Jr. Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, Jonathan Dennis, William Reynolds, Moſes Farnum, John Meader, Moſes H. Beede, Edmond Chace John Howland, Timothy C. Collins and Olney Thompson —

The Clerk being absent William Jenkins is appointed to that service for this time.

This Meeting is informed that the subjects referred to the Clerk of this Mtg. have been attended to –

We have received and read at this time the following communication from our beloved friends of the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting – it is an expression of their brotherly sympathy and desires for our preservation under the circumstances in which we are placed which is truly acceptable –

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends – We have received in due course your Epistle of the 3d of the 2d mo last informing us that a division to a limited extent had taken place in one of the Quarterly Meetings of your Yearly Meeting –

Whilst it would not become us to attempt to enter into the circumstances of this division, as described in the 'address to Friends of New England Yearly Meeting and elsewhere' which accompanies your Epistle, we feel that christian interest and concern which lead us to offer a short, brotherly reply to your communication. We sympathise with you under the conflicts and exercises which must have been your portion, and which may still await you.

We highly value the unity and harmony of the whole body of our Society wherever its constituent parts are situated; and hence we hear with great sorrow of the events to which you refer – Earnest and affectionate are our desires that under these peculiar trials, you may be concerned to watch unto prayer and that continually – The enemy of the peace of the Church knows how to present temptations most adapted to such a state of things. Accept, beloved friends, the acknowledgment of the brotherly sympathy we feel for you. May you each be kept in that quietness of spirit, in which there are not only rest and peace but also strength. And may you in all lowliness and forbearance be strengthened, in the meekness of wisdom, so to act both as members of the Church, and as members of civil Society, as that it may be evident that your main concern is to walk as the humble followers of our Lord and Saviour –

Whilst seeking to uphold the whole truth of God, may your demeanour towards those who were once your fellow members in religious Society – for whom also we tenderly feel – show forth the brightness, the meekness and the humility of the Christian, and may they be thereby drawn towards a reunion with you on the grounds of that mutual confidence, that harmony of feeling, and that unity of view on the precious principles of the Gospel, which constitute the comfort and the blessing of religious Society –

Strong is our sense of the danger of division, and of its evil consequences O that it may not spread, that no root of bitterness may spring up so that the heart of any brother may be defiled –

May it be the sincere and fervent prayer of you all, that the blessed Head of the Church in his boundless love and pity may cause this distressing event to

promote your deepening in the work of religion, – your furtherance in the way everlasting – In the flowings of brotherly love we are your sincere friends –
Signed in and on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings held in London by adjournment the 4th of 8th month 1845

Robert Forster – Clerk" –

This Meeting being introduced into concern on account of the want of information among Friends respecting the number of those who have separated themselves from our religious Society, and set up meetings out of its order within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, after having deliberately considered the subject has come to the conclusion, to request the several Monthly Meetings belonging to New England Yearly Meeting to furnish the Clerk of this Meeting with the number of adult Friends, male and female, with their children of all ages, and also the number of those adults, male and female, who have joined with the Separatists, (whether disowned for so doing or not) and likewise the children of such, making a distinction between them and the children of Friends. And they are also requested to furnish the number of Ministers and Elders in their respective meetings and the number of those who have joined in the Separation, where any have so done – The Monthly Meetings are desired to give attention to this concern as soon as practicable – The Clerk of this Meeting is directed to forward a copy of this Minute to the several Monthly Meetings –

Error

Entered on previous page

~~At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 11 mo. 8th 1845 – present 15 members viz Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thos. Anthony, Abraham Shearman Jr Jonathan Dennis William Jenkins, John Meader, Edmond Chace John Howland, Olney Thompson, Moses Farnum, William Reynolds, David Buffum and Moses H. Beede –~~

~~The Clerk being absent William Jenkins is appointed to that service for this time – This Meeting is informed that the subjects referred to the Clerk of this meeting have been attended to –~~

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 mo. 4th 1846. present 18 members – viz Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmond Chace, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Olney Thompson, Beriah Collins –

The Clerk reports that agreeably to the direction of our last meeting he had forwarded the minute then adopted to the several Monthly Meetings and had received returns therefrom, showing the state of the meetings as regards the secession, at the time of the date of the accounts so far as could then be ascertained — the Clerk is directed to place a summary upon our records as follows —

		Friends —			Separatists			
Rhode Island	Quarter —	15 Ministers —	33 Elders —	981 members —	1 Min.	4 Elders.	134 adults —	93 children
Salem	"	15 "	25 "	1193 "	1 "	1 "	28 "	11 "
Sandwich	"	18 "	17 "	1346 "	2 "	7 "	179 "	57 "
Falmouth	"	6 "	22 "	846 "	none —	none —	2 "	1 "
Vassalborough	"	17 "	28 "	1034 "	none	none	2 "	3 "
Smithfield	"	3 "	24 "	785 "	none,	none,	none	, none
Dover	"	11 "	13 "	911 "	none	2 "	37 "	22 "
Fairfield	"	9 "	30 "	728 "	none,	none,	none,	none —
	Total	94 "	192 "	7824	4 "	14 "	382 "	187 "

The Committee appointed in the 6th month to attend to any services connected with the welfare of Society that might devolve upon them, inform that a portion of their number attended the late Yearly Meeting of North Carolina and its Meetg for Sufferings to their own peace — They presented the following communications from those Meetings respectively, addressed to this Meeting, which are truly satisfactory to us. — viz.

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting —
Our Esteemed Friends Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Perez Peck and Samuel Boyce acceptably attended this meeting and produced a copy of a minute from the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting held at Newport the 21st of the 6th Mo. 1845 — who were appointed by said Meeting to give their attention to any subject connected with the general and common interest of Society — whose company and labor have been satisfactory and edifying to us — Extracted from the Minutes of North Carolina Yearly Meeting held at New Garden from the 3d to the 7th of the 11th month 1845

Aaron Stalker — Clerk" —

"Samuel Boyd Tobey, Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck and Samuel Boyce of New England and Mahlon Day of New York produced to this Meeting a written document from New York and New England Meeting for Sufferings, proposing a correspondence between the different Meetings for Sufferings to promote the general interest and prosperity of Society, with which this Meeting unites, and appoints Richard Mendenhal Thomas T. Hunt, Aaron Stalker, David White, Samuel Hill, Thomas Kenedy, John Newlin, Joshua Stanley, William Dobbins and John Carter to correspond or confer with similar Committees from other Meetings for Sufferings —
Extracted from the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina held 11th month 5th 1845 and signed by direction of the same

Jonathan Harris Clerk" —

A communication was received at this time from the Meeting for Sufferings of New York proposing a united action by all the Meetings for Sufferings of Friends on this Continent to endeavour to persuade the authorities of the National Government to adopt such measures as will avert the evils of War with which it is feared we are now threatened – The subject claimed our solid attention and we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Peter Peck, Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Samuel Boyce and Thomas Anthony to take the subject weightily under consideration and to act therein as way may open for and best Wisdom direct – and report to this Meeting –

We have received the following communication from Dover Quarterly Meetg through its Committee viz.

"To the Meeting for Sufferings to be held at Providence R. I. 2nd Mo: 1846 – At Dover Q. Y. Meeting held the 22nd of 1st Mo: 1846 at Rochester the following minute was received from Berwick Mo: Meetg. viz. 'As we are often brought into trouble by those who have seceded from us, on account of our meeting house at North Berwick and are concerned to move along consistent with our christian principles and testimonies, we are desirous of the advice and assistance of the Quarterly Meeting respecting our future movements in this matter – The subject was referred to the Q. Y. Meetgs. Committee previously appointed with liberty to call on the Meeting for Sufferings for its advice and assistance, should they deem it expedient' –

The Committee have accordingly taken the subject into consideration, and think it best to state to the Meetg. for Sufferings that it appears that Friends of Berwick Mo. Meetg. acting conformably to the advice of the Committee have endeavoured to keep the meeting house at North Berwick in their possession for the use of Friends, by making use of locks and other fastenings to prevent it from being entered by others; but the house has been broken open by those who have seceded from Friends, whenever they have desired to occupy it and have found it so fastened; and they appear disposed to continue so to do. The Committee believe it a subject that may well claim the consideration of Friends; and desire that the Meeting for Sufferings may give such advice and assistance in the case as they may on due consideration think expedient –

Dover 1 Mo: 29th. 1846 –

In behalf of the Committee

Joseph Tuttle – Correspondent

Jonathan Dame

Walter Sawyer

We are brought feelingly to sympathize with our friends of Dover Q. Y. Meetg. in the unpleasant situation in which they are placed and we appoint John Osborne, David Buffum, Peter Peck, Samuel Boyce and Joseph Metcalf to confer and advise with the Committee of that meeting from time to time as circumstances may require – and report to this Meeting –

Our dear friend Abraham Shearman Jr— the Clerk of the Yearly Meetg being at this time in delicate health and desiring to be released from the charge of the books and papers belonging to the Y.y Meetg now in his possession the Clerk of this Meetg is appointed to receive the same on our behalf—

At a special meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings called in consequence of the subjoined communication to the Clerk— held at Providence 3 Mo. 10th 1846— Present 18 members viz Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson and Lemuel Jones—

"To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings

In consequence of the decease of our dear friend William Jenkins— the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Fund thou art requested to call a special meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings to convene in Providence on third day the 10th inst. at 11 o'clock A.M. to take such steps as may be deemed necessary in the case previous to the time of our next Y.y Meetg—

Providence 3 Mo. 5. 1846—

Rowland Greene
Thomas Anthony
Edward Wing
Joseph Metcalf
Peter Peck
David Buffum
Edmund Chace
John Meader
Olney Thompson"

This Meeting being at this time informed that by the will of our late beloved friend William Jenkins, his wife Anna A. Jenkins is appointed the sole executrix thereof, and that she has appointed Samuel Boyd Tobey her lawful attorney for the management of the business of her estate— and being by the dispensation of divine Providence which has called us together deprived of the Treasurer of the School Fund— this Meeting unitedly advises and requests our friend Samuel Boyd Tobey as attorney of Anna A. Jenkins, to receive the income of said School fund and to disburse the same according to the original intention of the donors and in the manner and for the purposes to which it has heretofore been applied, until our next Yearly Meeting—

After a season of deep solemnity and as we trust with a heavenly covering mercifully spread over us, under which our feelings have been introduced into tenderness and near sympathy one with another and of concern for the welfare of the Church, this meeting now concludes——

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5th Mo: 6th 1846.

Present 16 members viz Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lacy, Edmund Chace, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Berriah Collins, and Olney Thompson –

The Committee appointed in the 2nd month last on the subject of a communication to this Meeting from New York Meeting for Sufferings in relation to the danger of this Country's being involved in War with other nations report that they have given their solid attention thereto and have believed it might be right for this Meeting to memorialize the authorities of the General Government in relation to it – and presented the following copy of a Memorial, which being considered and approved the Clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf and cause a copy to be forwarded to the President, Senate and House of Representatives – and report to this Meeting – viz

"To the President, Senate and House of Representatives of the United States – The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England – respectfully showeth – That it is well known to you and to the world generally that the Society of Friends have ever held the practice of War to be contrary to the precepts of christianity and wholly incompatible with the express commands of Christ – equally incumbent upon nations as upon individuals – "love your enemies – do good to them that hate you – overcome evil with good" –

Under a clear conviction of the unlawfulness of War they have ever borne their solemn testimony against it; and in their earlier history it is found that they suffered much persecution and endured many distresses in the support of their christian principle in this respect – They still feel it to be incumbent upon them faithfully to maintain this most important christian testimony and rejoice in knowing that many of their fellow men are united with them in believing that War is unlawful and wholly at variance with the peaceable nature of the Gospel dispensation –

Your Memorialists forbear to dwell on the evils, multiplied and awful, that necessarily attend it – nor are they inclined at all to refer to the merits of the questions now at issue between our own and other Governments – They are fully persuaded however that if the subject be viewed only in relation to its effects upon our temporal prosperity that War can in no way be justified and that at the present age of the world for christian nations to resort to it would be opprobrious in the sight of Heaven – They think they clearly see that by cultivating a noble and honorable spirit of concession and friendly negotiation the present difficulties may be removed and evils of unspeakable magnitude averted –

They have therefore been deeply interested in the progress of events at Washington involving questions that might interrupt the continuance of peace; ~~with other~~ nations and have ardently desired their speedy and amicable adjustment — and under a sense of religious duty they feel constrained respectfully but most earnestly to entreat you to adopt those measures that will tend to perpetuate peace — being fully convinced that you will thereby receive the blessing of millions and above all that you may reap the reward indicated by our adorable Saviour himself "Blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called the children of God" —

We have received the following communication from our Brethren of the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting, which is truly acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to acknowledge its receipt and to inform that meeting of our action in relation to the subject matter of it and of their christian concern — viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends — We think it right in that brotherly love and confidence which have always subsisted between us, to inform you that we have been brought into deep concern and solicitude on account of the difference now ~~subsisting~~ existing between the Government of Great Britain and that of the United States on what is called the Oregon question, and of the danger of hostilities between the two countries, which it has appeared, from time to time to involve — Under this exercise of mind we have believed it to be our duty to present an address to Sir Robert Peel, as prime Minister, fully stating our christian principles on the subject of War, deprecating more especially so dreadful an event as War with a nation so closely bound to us by the ties of consanguinity and religious profession, and earnestly petitioning the Government to make every concession as to the mode of arbitration or in other respects which may be found necessary to the pacific termination of the dispute — We enclose a copy of the address which has been received with cordiality —

Under a clear conviction that the difficulty can be surmounted only by *mutual* concession, we would with deference, but with the earnestness of christian concern, suggest for your serious consideration whether it may not be also your religious duty to address your Government upon this momentous subject —

It has appeared to us that altho' the prospect of War seems, through divine mercy, to be somewhat subsiding, it is of great importance to the permanence of peaceful relations between the two countries, that the question itself, which has given rise to so much irritation, should be speedily and entirely set at rest.

We have authorised our friends William Forster, Josiah Forster George Stacey and John Allen, now in your land, to make such an appeal, *on our behalf*, on this subject to the President and other members of your Government, as best wisdom may appear to them to dictate — But while we have felt it to be our duty to employ them (should the way open) in this service, we are fully sensible that our influence at Washington must be small as compared with that of our American Brethren, and especially of the Meetings for Sufferings, as representing the several Yearly Meetings in your land. –

We have therefore made a similar suggestion to the ~~to the~~ other Meetings of this description in America as well as your own, and as we have nothing in view but the true welfare of the community on both sides the atlantic and the promotion of the blessed cause of peace, truth and righteousness, we trust you will bear with us and accept this communication in that love from which it springs, and we remain your affectionate friends Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting for Sufferings held in London the 18th of the 2nd month 1846 –

Robert Forster Clerk" –

A communication was received at this time from Nantucket Monthly Meeting, the further consideration of which is referred to our next meeting –

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our ensuing Yearly Meeting claiming our attention we appoint our friends Joseph Metcalf and William Reynolds to attend thereto; and they are authorized to draw $800.– from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting and appropriate it for the purpose above specified – Rhode Island Mo. Meetg. is requested to render its aid as heretofore – and the Clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute –

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to Samuel Boyce $26.– the amt. of bill now presented from Salem Mo. Meetg. for expenses incurred for the Boston meeting house and property connected with it –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6th month 13th 1846 – Present 32 members viz. Rowland Greene, John Warren, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Abijah Chace, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chace, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Tabor, Timothy C. Collins, Joseph Taylor, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson and Lemuel Jones –

The consideration of the communication from Nantucket Mo. Meeting in relation to the property of that meeting referred by minute at our last meeting is again deferred for consideration to a future meeting –

A communication was received at this time from Salem Mo. Meetg. which is referred to our friends, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Jno. Osborne John Meader, John Howland, Peter Peck and David Buffum who are requested carefully to consider the subject and report to a future meeting.

The Committee appointed in the 6th. month last to attend to any service that in the openings of Truth might devolve upon them inform that a portion of their number attended the late Yearly Meeting of New York and the several sittings of their Meeting for Sufferings to their own peace and comfort – they presented the following minute addressed to this Meeting which is truly satisfactory to us viz. "To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting. –

At the Meeting for Sufferings of New Yorks Yearly Meeting held the 23d of 5th. Mo: 1846 – and at a subsequent meeting held on the 30th. of the same month

We have had at those meetings the company of our dear friends, Thos. Anthony, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Rowland Greene and Perez Peck, members of the Committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings of New England to correspond or confer with other meetings for Sufferings on subjects connected with the general and common interests of the Society – Their company and services have been very acceptable to us. – The Clerk was directed to furnish them with a copy of this Minute – On behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid held the 30th. of 5th. Mo: 1846. –

Richard Carpenter Clerk". –

The subject of the expenses of the Yearly Meeting and of the apportionment of the same among the Quarterly Meetings claiming our consideration at this time we have believed it right to propose to the Yearly Meeting to give such attention thereto as they may deem proper –

The Committee on the subject of the Discipline, referred to this Meeting by the Yearly Meeting report that they have given further attention to the object of their appointment, but are not prepared to make any definite propositions at this time. –

The Clerk reports that he has forwarded to the President, Senate and House of Representatives the Memorial prepared at our last meeting –

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of this Meeting who is directed to lay our Records for the past year before the Yearly Meeting. –

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

1 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo: 19th 1846–
Present 32 members–

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the same friends as last year are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, with the exception of Francis Taber and our late friend William Jenkins, and the addition of our friend Thomas Harkness–

The subject of appointing a Clerk is referred for the present– and our friends David Buffum, John Meader, Samuel Boyce, George Howland, Joseph Metcalf and Perez Peck are appointed to take the subject into consideration and propose the name of a suitable friend for Clerk to our next meeting– and Samuel Boyd Tobey, now Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, is appointed to serve as Clerk of this Meeting at this time–

It is concluded that the stated times and places of holding this meeting for the ensuing year be as follows viz. at Lynn in the 8th month on fourth day before the third fifth day– at New Bedford in the 12th month on fourth day before the first fifth day– at Providence in the 2nd month on fourth day before the first fifth day– at East Greenwich in the 5th month on fourth day before the first fifth day– all at 3 o'clock in the afternoon– and at Newport on seventh day previous to the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 5 o'clock in the afternoon–

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 8 mo. 19th 1846.
Present 19 members, viz– Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Junr., Samuel Boyce, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, & Lemuel Jones.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to consider of the name of a friend for Clerk of this Meeting for the ensuing year propose Samuel Boyce for that service, which is united with; and he is accordingly appointed Clerk for the remainder of the year.

The following minute from our last Yearly Meeting was at this time received viz– "Yearly Meeting Sixth month– 1846.

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested to examine the Act of incorporation of this Yearly Meeting, and if in their judgment any amendment is required therein, they are desired to take the necessary measures to effect the object–

From the Minutes of said Meeting
Samuel Boyd Tobey. Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck, John Meader, David Buffum, & John Osborn to give such attention to the subject as will enable them to judge whether any amendment is necessary, & report their views thereon, at a future meeting —

The following minute from our last Yearly Meeting was also received. viz—

"The subject of a revision of our Discipline which has been heretofore committed to our Meeting for Sufferings is again refered to their attention to act therein as way may open for in the Truth —

From the Minutes of Said Meeting

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

Which claiming our deliberation, we appoint Thomas Anthony, John Meader, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Estes Newhall, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck, Samuel Taylor Jr. John Warren, Nathan Pope, George Howland, John Osborn, & Lemuel Jones, to take the subject into careful consideration, & report their views thereon at a future Meeting —

The subject of the continuation of a Committee to correspond or confer with similar committees from the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings and give their attention as way may open for it, to any subjects connected with the welfare and best interests of our Society, at this time claiming our solid consideration, and the concern still resting with weight upon this Meeting, we appoint, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D Lang, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyce, George Howland, Perez Peck, & Samuel Taylor Jr, to that Service —

The committee appointed by this Meeting to take the necessary care relative to providing for the accommodation of our Yearly Meeting Report that the expense incurred is \$1437.07 cts — And the balance of said expense not already provided for. viz — \$637.07 cts our Treasurer is directed to pay to the Committee —

The committee appointed some months since, to take into consideration a communication from Salem Monthly Meeting, at this time made a verbal Report; which being satisfactory to the Meeting, they are released from further service —

The London printed Epistle for the present Year has been received and read at this time to our satisfaction; And believing that usefulness would result from a general circulation thereof among our members, we appoint Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies thereof to be printed & distributed among our Quarterly Meetings; and to draw on the Treasurer for the expense thereof —

We have at this time appointed Samuel Taylor Jr, John Meader, and Nathan Pope as an addition to the Committee appointed to confer and advise with the Committee of Dover Quarterly Meeting in relation to a communication received from that Quarterly Meeting in the 2 mo last — And said committee are requested to extend their advice to any other one of our monthly meetings that may be in a similar situation to the one referred to, in said communication

---

At a meeting for sufferings held at New Bedford 12 mo. 2d. 1846 – Present 17 members viz. (Rowland Greene, Abraham Shearman Junr., Estes Newhall, Thomas Anthony, Jonathan Dennis, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Olney Thompson, & Lemuel Jones –

The friend appointed to have 3000 copies of the London printed Epistle printed & distributed among our Quarterly Meetings, reports that the service has been accomplished –

This meeting being at this time introduced into a deep concern on account of the war existing between this Government & Mexico, and being impressed with a sense of the innumerable evils resulting from its continuation, and an earnest desire pervading our minds that our testimony against all wars & fightings should be steadily held up to the view of the world, after a time of solid consideration thereon, we have concluded to present to Congress the following memorial; viz –

"To the Senate and House of Representatives, of the United States of America; in Congress assembled –

The memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly meeting of the Society of Friends for New-England respectfully showeth –

That as it is well known to be one of our distinguishing religious principles, in accordance as we apprehend with the spirit of the Gospel, and the precepts of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, that all wars and fightings are wrong, and forbidden to Christians, we being now assembled on the general concerns of our Society, have had our attention solemnly turned to the existing war between this country and Mexico – And, under a belief that it is our religious duty, we do most respectfully entreat you to devise and adopt such measures as will put a speedy end to the existence of this war, with the multiplied evils and direful calamities attendant upon it – We very earnestly solicit you to direct your attention to the subject, and are persuaded that by giving your favorable consideration to our petition, you will avert evils unspeakable both from our own Country and from Mexico, and will for yourselves secure the blessing of Him who regards the cries of those, who are ready to perish" –

And the clerk was directed to sign the same on behalf of this meeting and forward it accordingly –

Adjourned to meet again at this place at the 9th hour tomorrow morning –

12th month 3d. Met pursuant to adjournment – present 15 members – Notwithstanding this meeting has from time to time declared its firm belief in, & unity with, the writings of our primitive friends, we believe it right now again to declare, that we are united in the belief that Robert Barclay's "Apology for the

True Christian Divinity" cannot be subjected to any revision, alteration, or change, from whatsoever source the suggestion may emanate; That having been approved by the constituted authorities of our religious Society, and extensively circulated both among Friends & others, it is our united sense and judgment, that any attempt to revise or change it, should be entirely discountenanced —

The clerk of this meeting for last year informs, that agreeable to the direction given him, he forwarded a copy of the Memorial on the subject of War, prepared in the 5 mo. last, to the President, Senate, & House of Representatives of the United States, and that it received the respectful attention of Congress — The one addressed to the Senate, was printed by that body —

At a meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence 3d of 2 mo. 1847 —

Present 19 members, viz — Rowland Greene, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, & Thomas Harkness —

The Clerk informs, that in accordance with the direction given him, he forwarded a copy of the Memorial prepared at our last Meeting, to the Senate & House of Representatives, & that it received their respectful attention —

Application being made at this time from Friends of Nantucket Monthly Meeting, for advice relative to property belonging to that Meeting, which is claimed by the Separatists, this Meeting refers the subject to the Committee already under appointment, to have charge of the suit against Swanzey Monthly Meeting, with the exception of Thomas Howland & William Jenkins deceased — And said Committee are requested to act in the case on behalf of this Meeting, in such manner, & adopt such measures, as circumstances may require; And Thomas Harkness, Moses H. Beede, and Abraham Barker are appointed as an addition to said Committee —

A communication is at this time received from a committee of Dover Quarterly Meeting, as follows viz —

"At a Meeting of Dover Quarterly Meeting's Committee held 1 mo. 28th — 1847 — The within communication was received & read; And being in a measure dipped into sympathy with our dear Friends of North Berwick, in regard to their difficulties and trials, it is our united conclusion to submit the deep & weighty consideration of the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, in order that such advice & assistance may be given them, as Best Wisdom may dictate, & their peculiar circumstances seem to require — In behalf of the Quarterly

Meetings' Committee —

Joseph Tuttle
Jonª Dame
Walter Sawyer"

"To the Quarterly Meetings' Committee —

We the undersigned members of Berwick Monthly Meeting have long felt a desire, that we might be preserved to act, under the peculiar trials in which this monthly Meeting is placed on account of the late separation, in accordance with the advice of Friends & the best interests of Society — We have therefore on several occasions, solicited advice from our friends, & have thus far received the kind attention & sympathy of friends abroad, but we are still suffering under the painful effects of the separation, by having our Meeting House broken open, locks & fastenings carried off, & the property injured, & what is still more painful, and is attended with the most discouraging & injurious effect upon our Meeting, as appears to us, is, that we are obliged to meet in the same house for Divine Worship, and are often disturbed by the breaking up of the body of separatists before our Meeting is closed, and sometimes while a friend has been engaged in publick testimony — We believe our little Meeting is suffering loss, and will continue to, while placed under such trying circumstances, and are therefore desirous that our dear friends, of this Quarterly Meeting, & elsewhere, will take our case under serious consideration, and render such advice as Best Wisdom may dictate —

Elijah Varney
Benajah Varney
P. M. Neal
Benajah Buffum
William Hussey
Henry Estes
Edward Evans
George Estes
Isaiah Fry
John Hussey
Daniel Hanson
Moses H. Hussey
Jonathan Buffum"

William Robinson
William Jepson
Amasa Varney
Joseph Brackett
James Hussey
Josiah Prescott
Stephen Jenkins"

Which claiming our consideration, much sympathy was expressed for friends of the Meeting thus brought into Suffering; And after a time of deliberation thereon, the Subject was referred to the Committee appointed in the 2 mo. last, on account of a Communication then received from that Quarterly Meeting — And the Clerk was directed to furnish the Committee of that Quarterly Meeting, with an extract of this minute —

The following communication was at this time received from the Meeting for Sufferings of Newyork Yearly Meeting — Viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

This Meeting has been introduced into much exercise and solicitude in relation to those periodical publications, in Great Britain, and in this country, which are under the control of members of our religious society, and claim to be the defenders of its interest, and the exponents of its Faith and Doctrine, — and we believe it to be our duty to address — in that love and freedom which the gospel enjoins — the Meetings for Sufferings of the Several Yearly Meetings, and urge their early and serious consideration of this Subject —

It has long been the established rule and practise of our Society, not only to watch with care, the early efforts of those who believe themselves called to address our religious assemblies — but to maintain a constant Supervision of all the recognized labourers in the Vineyard: And our Yearly Meeting, and most, if not every other requires that all works which treat of the Doctrines of the Society, should be Submitted for inspection and revision prior to publication — In view of these regulations, and under a clear conviction that they were established in the wisdom and Authority of Truth — and that very beneficial effects have resulted from them, we have seen with mingled emotions of Concern and regret, that Periodical Publications, professing in essential particulars to be established for the Same purposes — are issued and circulated without being subjected to those salutary regulations —

We would therefore respectfully suggest whether, in consideration of the rapidity with which such publications are made to succeed each other — the haste with which essays and communications must frequently be penned, and perhaps by irresponsible or unknown parties — the interest of the society does not pressingly require, that a similar supervisory care should be extended to them — It appears to us, that the danger to be apprehended from those publications, is greatly enhanced by their extended circulation, and their very intimate connexion — amounting may we not say, to companionship — with the family circles —

Under the most favorable circumstances, and during the best State of the Church, such publications could scarcely fail to be dangerous — but agitated, as it now unhappily is, — and influenced, as many appear to be, by personal and Sectional considerations, the danger appears to us, to be alarmingly augmented —

The proceedings of Meetings for Discipline, and the action of Yearly Meetings, upon subjects connected with the agitated State of the body at large have been reported in these papers in advance of the official accounts — and we have seen with pain, that in the haste incidental to a fixed day for publication, such reports are frequently immature, erroneous, and contradictory. Derived as they must often be, from a prejudiced source, they give a false coulering to facts — tend to irritate the minds of many, — And increase those evils, which all must unite in lamenting —

Apart from the disposition to omit, or defer the correction of errors which sustain our favorite views, or prejudices — the remote situation of the meetings interested, and the tardy movements of such bodies, may frequently render it impossible to apply a timely and adequate antidote —

We would also affectionately suggest that whenever a considerable number believe themselves aggrieved by what they deem the misrepresentations of an existing Periodical — an inducement is offered for the establishment of a Journal in opposition — And all experience shows, that publications devoted to the support of conflicting opinions and interests — greatly increase party strife, jealousy, and bickering — And sooner, or later, destroy that harmony which is so essential to the prosperity of the church — and without which, indeed it cannot exist —

Finally, dear bretheren, it is with sincere desires for the preservation of our religious Society, that we venture thus to address you — earnestly craving that we may be enabled to "love one another with a pure heart fervently" — That we may live in love, and that, "the God of love and peace may be with us" —

With the salutation of love we remain your Friends —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting, held 7th of 9 mo 1846 —

Richard Carpenter, Clerk" —

which being read, was acceptable to this meeting —

Information being at this time received, that in consequence of the principal means of subsistence of the poorer class of the people in Ireland having been cut off, much suffering exists in various parts of that Country, & that Friends there, and in England, & elsewhere, have contributed, & are now contributing liberally for their relief, & a circular upon the subject issued by Friends in England, addressed to Friends in North-America, having been received & read at this time, it is the conclusion of this meeting to recommend the subject to the consideration of our Monthly Meetings, in order that Friends may enter into subscriptions for their relief, should way open for it – And we appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey, Peres Peck, John Meader, John Osborne, John D. Lang, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, & Samuel Boyce, a committee to whom such subscriptions as may be obtained may be forwarded, who are requested to take charge thereof, and forward the same so that it shall be applied in such way, as shall most effectually relieve the wants of those for whom it is intended –

At a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence 3 mo. 30 – 1847 –

Present 17 members, viz – Rowland Greene, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Peres Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Olney Thompson, and Thomas Harkness –

The Clerk informs that he has received the following notice, and in accordance therewith has called this Meeting viz –

"To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings –

Dear Friend –

The Subscribers, members of the Meeting for Sufferings, believe that circumstances connected with the welfare of Society may render a convening of that Meeting at an early day desirable – Wilt thou please call a Meeting accordingly, and we would propose that it should be held in this place on third day the 30th of 3d month at 2, O'clock, P.M –

Providence 3 mo. 1847 –

Joseph Metcalf
Samuel Taylor Jr
Peres Peck
John Meader
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Thomas Harkness
Olney Thompson
Abijah Chase
Estes Newhall
Matthew Purinton"

Our friend Stephen A. Chase presented to this meeting, a statement by the late Joseph John Gurney of Norwich, England, respecting his religious belief upon various christian doctrines, with a request that he might be permitted to publish the same which was read – It appears that the said statement was furnished by Joseph John Gurney, for the purpose of being used in evidence in a legal controversy, now in progress between friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, and the separatists therefrom, and that it was the expectation and hope of the author of the statement, that our friend Stephen A. Chase should publish the same, whenever he might consider it desirable so to do –

This meeting does not feel themselves called upon to express any judgment respecting the contents of said paper, but are willing to leave Stephen A Chase at liberty to do in the premises what he shall judge right in respect to its publication –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5th of 5 mo. 1847 –

Present 16 members. Viz – Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, & Olney Thompson –

The committee appointed in the 8 mo. last, to examine the Act of Incorporation of our Yearly Meeting, and Report whether in their judgment any amendment therein is required, at this time inform that they have given attention thereto, and are of opinion that it is not expedient to make any alteration therein –

A communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting, was received at this time as follows viz –

"At a Meeting for Sufferings held in London by adjournment the 15th of 1 mo 1847 –

This meeting has been informed that in consequence of the Famine and distress now spreading in Ireland, a Committee of Friends in London has been appointed to attend to the raising and appropriation of funds very liberally subscribed by Friends in Great Britain, and that they are acting in cordial Cooperation with a Similar Committee of Friends in Dublin. And also that the Committee in London have written to friends in America, and invited their taking a part in the benevolent effort on behalf of the sufferers –

The subject is one which deeply interests our feelings – Famine prevails and spreads in Ireland, to a very affecting and appalling extent. Large numbers are perishing from the want of food, arising from the failure of the potato crop – a supply of sustenance on which hundreds of thousands have been accustomed for years almost solely to depend –

Our sympathies and sorrows are deeply awakened; And, in that brotherly love and fellowship which we desire to cherish and cultivate, we feel inclined to commend the state of the distressed to the christian feelings and interests of our brethren of the several Meetings for Sufferings in America, and to add our desire, that as your Country has been blessed with an abundant harvest, in whatever way any of your members may be disposed to manifest their desire to assist in helping our fellowmen, you may be encouraged to do so, either by the sending of money or of grain to the care of Friends —

We feel that this mysterious dispensation of the Most High, should lead us to a renewed sense of our dependence upon Him for the supply of all our wants, whether temporal or spiritual, and earnest are our desires, that being brought to a state of true humiliation before Him, this sore calamity may be overruled for good, and blessed to us, and to the inhabitants of this Kingdom —

The correspondents of the respective Yearly Meetings in America are instructed to transmit a copy of the foregoing minute, to the respective correspondents abroad, and request that it may be promptly brought under the notice of the several Meetings for Sufferings whom they represent —

Robert Forster Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and Samuel Boyce, to prepare an essay for an answer thereto, and present to our next meeting for approbation —

The subject of making provision for the accommodation of our next Yearly Meeting, claiming our consideration, we appoint William Reynolds, Timothy C. Collins, Peres Peck, and Joseph Metcalf, to give such attention thereto, as they may deem necessary; And they are authorized to draw on the Treasury, for the sum of 800 Dolls to be appropriated for that purpose; And Rhode Island Monthly Meeting are requested to lend their aid as heretofore — And the Clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute —

The usual accommodation of our Yearly Meeting claiming our further attention, & a minute of this Meeting made in 1830, being read, after a time of deliberation thereon, the subject was referred to our next meeting for further consideration —

The Treasurer is directed to pay to Samuel Boyce $22^{Drs},25^{cts}$ the amount of a bill presented from Salem Monthly Meeting, for money paid for the care of Boston Meeting House —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 6 mo. 12. 1847 —

Present 28 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, John Warren, Abraham Shearman jr, Estes Newhall, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Peres Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Baker, Timothy C. Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, & Samuel Jones —

The Committee appointed to receive and forward such Subscriptions as might be obtained for the Relief of the Suffering Poor in Ireland at this time, made the following Report — Viz —

"The Committee appointed to receive and forward the Subscriptions obtained among Friends, for the purpose of aiding in the relief of the Suffering poor in Ireland, agreeably with the recommendation of the Meeting for Sufferings in the 2 mo. last, Report —

That there has been raised among Friends in this Yearly Meeting, \$6536,87cts most of which was obtained from members of our Society —

Of this Sum, \$5398,12cts was remitted by one of the Committee to Joseph Bewley of Dublin, one of the Treasurers of the "Central Relief Committee of Friends" in Ireland; 800 Dolls. was sent with other funds raised in New-Bedford and its vicinity to Jonathan Pim of Dublin, one of the Secretaries of the same Committee; And 230 Dolls. was sent by one of the Committee with other funds to Thomas P. Cope of Philadelphia, the receipt of which has been acknowledged, and there is now in the hands of the Committee a balance of \$108,75cts which is to be forwarded without delay —

Newport 6mo. 11 1847 — On behalf of the Committee
John Meader
Samuel Boyd Tobey
John Osborne"

Which is Satisfactory to the Meeting; and the Committee are continued, and are desired to make a final report when the object of their appointment appears to be accomplished —

The Committee to prepare an Essay for a Communication to London Meeting for Sufferings, at this time presented the following, Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

At our Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5th of 5mo. 1847, your acceptable communication of 1 mo. 15th was recd. and read which called forth renewed feelings of Sympathy for those who are suffering from the distress arising from Want and Famine in your Land —

The Subject had previously claimed our serious attention, and at a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence in the 2 mo. last, our minds were solemnly turned thereto, and a Circular from Friends in England addressed to Friends in North-America being read at that time, it was concluded to recommend the Subject to the consideration of our Monthly Meetings, in order that they might open Subscriptions if way should open for it, for the purpose of aiding in the Relief of the Sufferers, and a Committee was appointed to receive and forward whatever might be raised for that purpose —

The following Report is at this time rec^d. from the committee viz. —

Our hearts have been drawn into near and tender sympathy with the inhabitants of your Kingdom, in the afflicting dispensation which has been permitted to attend them, and fervent have been our desires, that those who are blessed with a competency, may be strengthened and encouraged, to continue their benevolent exertions, for the relief of the sufferers; believing, that in so doing they will realize, that "the blessing of Him who regardeth the cries of those who are ready to perish will rest upon them" —

Which being read and approved, the clerk was directed to sign it on our behalf & forward it to that Meeting —

The subject of making the usual accommodation for our Yearly Meeting, claiming our consideration by reference from our last Meeting, is at this time deferred; the Meeting being informed that it will probably be brought before the Yearly Meeting, for its consideration —

A testimony from Weare Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend John Page, and one from Unity Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Phebe B. Taber, were at this time received and read, and were united with; and they were referred to our friends John Meader, David Buffum, Samuel Taylor Jr, Joseph Metcalf, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, for further consideration, who are requested to present them at an adjournment of this Meeting —

A testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Alice Rathbun was also received and read; and being approved, the clerk was directed to lay it before the Yearly Meeting —

We have at this time with us, our dear friends Benjamin Seebohm and Robert Lindsey from England, Charles Haviland, from Michigan, Nathaniel Crenshaw from Virginia, John Thorn from Nine Partners, and Mahlon Day, and William Cromwell from NewYork, whose company has been very acceptable to us —

Adjourned to meet again on 4th day morning the 16th instant, at 8 o clock —

Fourth day morning the 16th. met pursuant to adjournment — Present 24 members —

Our dear friends from abroad, who were with us at our last Meeting, are again acceptably in attendance at the present time —

The committee to take into consideration, the minute of our last Yearly Meeting, relative to some revision of our Discipline at this time made the following Report — Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the important subject of the examination of our Discipline with a view to some revision thereof, as indicated by the Yearly Meeting Report — That they have from time to time given their serious attention to the subject and have carefully read the book of Discipline, comparing it with those of some of the other Yearly Meetings, and have made some progress in preparing some propositions for amendments to be brought to the consideration of this Meeting — They are not however at this time prepared fully to report, except upon the subject of Marriage, in relation to which they would propose, what is herewith presented, should be adopted as our discipline in this respect —

On behalf of the Committee

Newport 6 mo 1st 1847 — John Warren

"Thomas Anthony"

Which being read, and satisfactory, to the Meeting is accepted; and the Clerk is directed to lay, what the Committee have prepared upon the Subject of Marriage before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to whom was referred the testimonies concerning our late dear friends John Sage & Phebe B. Taber at this time presented them, which being again read and approved, the Clerk was directed to lay them before the Yearly Meeting —

The Clerk is directed to lay our records for the past year before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 18th of 6 mo 1847 –

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the following friends are appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings the coming year – Viz – Rowland Greene, John Warren, Abraham Shearman Jun – Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Junr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr – Lindley M. Hoag, David H. Akin, Stephen A Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, & Isaac Lawrence –

Present at this time, 39 members, and our dear friends from abroad, who were with us at our last meeting, with the exception of Charles Haviland –

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this meeting for the coming year,

It is concluded that the stated times and places for holding this meeting the ensuing year, be the same as last year. Viz – At Lynn, in the 8 mo on 4th day before the third 5th day – At New Bedford, on 4th day before the first 5th day in the 12th mo – At Providence on 4th day before the first 5th day in the 2 mo, At East Greenwich on 4th day before the first 5th day in the 5 mo, all at 3 o clock in the afternoon, and at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of the Yearly meeting at 5 o clock in the afternoon –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn, 18th of 8 mo 1847

Present 17 members, viz – Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Lemuel Jones, Lindley M. Hoag, Stephen A. Chase, William H. Chase, & David Douglass – And we have also the acceptable company of our friends Daniel Williams, and John Maxwell from Indiana Yearly Meeting –

The subject of making some further revision in our Discipline being referred to this Meeting by a minute of our last Yearly Meeting, as follows, Viz – "Yearly Meeting 6 mo 18th 1847 –

"The Meeting for Sufferings is requested still to continue its attention to a revision of our Discipline, as way may open for in the truth — Extracted from the minutes.

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

The friends appointed in the 8 mo. last, together with Stephen A. Chase, Lindley M. Hoag, and John Howland, are appointed to give the subject their careful consideration and report their views thereon at a future meeting —

The committee to provide for the accommodation of our yearly meeting, reported the expense incurred to be 11$^{\$}$59.52^{cts} — And the Treasurer of the yearly meeting, is directed to pay the balance not already provided for, viz — 33$^{\$}$9.52^{cts} to said committee —

The consideration of the suit instituted against Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting by the separatists therefrom, at this time claiming the attention of the meeting, our friends, John Osborne, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, John Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Perez Peck, George Howland, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Estes Newhall, Stephen A Chase, Thomas Harkness, & Moses H. Beede, and Abraham Barker, were requested to prepare a report in relation to the case, & also that of Nantucket Monthly Meeting, and present the same to our next meeting —

The London printed epistle for the present year was at this time received and read to our satisfaction — And in order that the instructive counsel therein contained, should be more generally diffused among our members, we appoint Samuel Boyce to cause 3000 copies thereof to be printed and forwarded to our Quarterly Meetings — And he is authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the expense incurred thereby —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in New Bedford, 1st of 12 mo. 1847 — Present 17 members — viz — Benjamin Fry, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Beriah Collins, Lemuel Jones, David K. Aikin, William H. Chase, and Isaac Lawrence —

The Committee to prepare a Report in relation to the suit now pending in Court, between Swanzey Monthly Meeting, and the separatists therefrom, at this time presented one, which is satisfactory; And at the request of the committee it is continued in their hands, in order for an addition to be made thereto; And they are requested to present it at our next meeting —

The Committee to receive and forward subscriptions for the suffering poor in Ireland, at this time presented the following Report. Viz "The committee appointed to receive and forward the Subscriptions obtained among Friends for the purpose of aiding in the relief of the suffering poor in Ireland, Report —

That since their statement in the 6 mo. last, they have received the sum of Fifty Five Dollars and Seven cts, which together with the balance then on hand, viz One Hundred Eight Dollars, & Seventy five cts, has been forwarded to Joseph Bewley of Dublin, and the receipt thereof acknowledged — This remittance makes the total amount of funds forwarded since the appointment of the Committee — — — — — $ 6591, 14

New Bedford 12 mo. 1. 1847.

On behalf of the Committee.
Samuel Boyd Tobey
David Buffum
Samuel Boyce."

Which is satisfactory to the meeting; And the Committee are now released from further attention to that service —

This Meeting is at this time informed, that there being property within the limits of Greenwich Monthly Meeting belonging to our Society, which it is desirable should be disposed of, Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting has taken the subject into consideration, and has granted that Monthly Meeting liberty to effect a sale thereof whenever it may be deemed expedient — Which meets the approbation of this meeting —

The records of our Yearly Meeting, having since the decease of our late friend William Jenkins, been kept under the care of Samuel Boyd Tobey, and he having at this time informed the meeting, that it is desirable, that some special place should be obtained, where they may with safety be kept, we appoint our friends Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, to procure some suitable place, where they can be deposited, and to report the name of some Friend to take charge thereof —

This meeting being at this time introduced into renewed concern on account of the war existing between this Government and Mexico, and being impressed with a sense of the innumerable evils which must result from its continuation, and fervent desires having pervaded our minds for a speedy termination thereof, after a time of solid deliberation thereon, we appoint our friends John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, and Percy Peck, to take the subject into serious consideration; and if way should open for it, prepare an essay for a Memorial to Congress in relation thereto, and present the same to an adjournment of this meeting for approbation —

Adjourned to meet again in Providence, on 3d day, before the 1st 5th day, in next month, at 3 o clk, in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence by adjournment the 4th of 1 mo. 1848 —

Present 17 members, viz — Rowland Greene, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Percy Peck, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Samuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen A. Chase, and William H. Chase —

The committee to take into consideration, the subject of again Memorializing Congress respecting the present war with Mexico, and if way should open for it prepare an essay for a Memorial in relation thereto, at this time presented the following, viz —

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled —

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England respectfully sheweth —

That your Memorialists regard with deep regret and sorrow, the existence and continuance of the war between this country and Mexico —

We are not insensible of the importance and responsibility of appearing as petitioners before the constituted authorities of our country, but we are constrained, under a deep sense of the unrighteousness, and vast practical evils, inseparably connected with war, again earnestly to solicit your serious attention to it —

While your Memorialists believe that all wars and fightings are contrary to the precepts and spirit of the Gospel of Christ, and are forbidden to Christians, they are aware that circumstances sometimes attend the prosecution thereof, which may very much increase their calamities —

How far the war in which this country is now engaged with Mexico, partakes of such circumstances, it may not become us in thus Memorializing you to decide — But in addition to the many thousands of Mexicans, among whom are great numbers of women and helpless children, who have fallen on the field of battle, or in the capture of cities is the fearful fact, that the lives of thousands of our own citizens, have also been Sacrifised in this strife, increasing in no small degree, the number of the widows and the fatherless—

Nor can we but deplore the circumstance that our own citizens now compose an invading army, within the acknowledged Territory of a neighboring nation, towards whom this country has heretofore been on terms of amity and peace—

And your Memorialists would entreat you, as the Representatives of this nation, calmly to take into your serious consideration the responsibility of your present position — And they earnestly desire, that in your deliberations upon this momentous Subject, you may be directed by that Wisdom which has for its aim, the doing unto others as we would they should do unto us, to adopt measures for the speedy termination of this war; and that the retrospect of after days, may afford to you the consolation of having faithfully discharged your duty to yourselves, to your country, and to your God" —

Which being read and approved, the clerk was directed to sign it on behalf of this meeting.

And our friends John Meader, John L. Lang, & Stephen A. Chase, are requested to unite with the clerk, and forward a copy thereof to both houses of Congress, and report to this meeting when accomplished.

The Committee to procure some suitable place where the records of **our Yearly** Meeting can be kept, report; that a place can be obtained in a vault in the building formerly occupied by the Manufacturer's Bank in Providence for the sum of 25 Dollars per year; and they propose that they should be kept under the care of Samuel Boyd Tobey; which meeting our approbation, Samuel Boyd Tobey is appointed to have the records deposited in the place abovementioned, and to take charge thereof—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence 2d of 2 mo. 1848— Present 22 members, viz — Edward Wing, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, David H. Aikin, and Stephen A. Chase—

The friend appointed in the 8 mo last to have 3000 copies of the London printed Epistle printed and forwarded to our Quarterly Meetings, informs that the service has been accomplished.

Our friend Samuel Boyd Tobey informs that in accordance with the minute made at our last Meeting, he has caused the Records and papers of our Yearly Meeting to be placed in the vault, in the building formerly occupied by the Manufacturers Bank in Providence; and they are continued under his care.

A Memoir concerning Hannah C. Collins deceased, daughter of Timothy C. Collins was read and was committed to our friends John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and David Buffum, who are requested to examine and inspect the same, and confer with Timothy C. Collins the father of the deceased in relation thereto, and present it to a future meeting, with a view to its being published.

At a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence 21st of 3 mo. 1848.

Present 18 members, viz. Rowland Greene, Nicholas Congdon John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Thomas Harkness, & William H. Chase.

The Clerk informs that this meeting has been called pursuant to the following notice. Viz.

"To Samuel Boyce Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings.

Believing that there are circumstances which make it expedient that a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings should be held, we hereby request thee to call such a Meeting, to be held at Friends' Meeting House in Providence on third day the 21st of the present month at 11 o'clock A. M.

Salem 3d month 15th 1848.

Stephen A. Chase
Estes Newhall
Matthew Purinton
William H. Chase
George Howland
John Howland
Edmund Chase"

This Meeting is informed that there is a bill now pending in the Legislature of Massachusetts, by which a change is proposed in the Militia Laws of that State, and that according to the provisions thereof, Friends will be liable to be subjected to Suffering, should said bill become a law; Which claiming the serious attention of the Meeting, much concern was expressed on account of those who would be liable to become Sufferers by the passage of said bill, and fervent desires were felt, that our testimony against wars and fightings, should be faithfully maintained — And after a time of solid consideration thereon, we appoint our friends George Howland, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, William H Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, Edmund Chase, John Meader, John Howland, & Joseph Metcalf, to have an interview with the Committee of the Said Legislature, to whom the proposed bill is submitted for Consideration, and to use their exertions to obtain a continuance of the leniency which has for many years been extended to Friends by the laws of that State, that the conscientious scruples which our Society has always entertained against bearing arms, or the payment of money as commutation therefor, scruples founded on the precepts of the gospel, for the maintainance of which our worthy predecessors in the Truth, endured much suffering, may be duly regarded —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 3rd of 5 mo. 1848 — Present 15 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Parker, & David K. Aikin —

The committee to whom was referred the memoir of Hannah C. Collins deceased, daughter of Timothy C. Collins, report that they have attended to their appointment; And the memoir being again read, it was approved, and liberty given for its publication —

The subject of making some further revision in our discipline, pursuant to a minute of our last Yearly Meeting, having been submitted to a Committee for consideration in the 8 mo. last, and claiming our serious attention in the 1 mo. at which time it appeared to be the sense of the meeting that way did not open for making any movement in relation thereto, the attention of this meeting was at this time again turned to the consideration thereof; And after a season of weighty deliberation this meeting is united in judgment, that it is not advisable at present, to propose any further revision therein — And the Committee appointed in the 8 mo. to consider the subject are accordingly released from further attention thereto —

The subject of providing for the accommodation of our next Yearly Meeting, claiming our consideration we appoint our friends William Reynolds, Perez Peck, and Joseph Metcalf, to give such attention thereto as may appear necessary, and they are authorized to draw on the Treasury for the sum of 800 Dolls, to be appropriated to that purpose; And Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore — And the clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute —

The committee appointed at our last meeting on account of a bill now pending in Massachusetts Legislature, proposing a change in the Militia Laws of that State, by which Friends would be liable to be subjected to Suffering, inform, that they have given such attention to the subject as appeared necessary, and that the Committee of the Legislature to whom said bill was submitted for consideration, appear to be disposed to regard the Scruples of Friends respecting military requisitions, and have given encouragement of using their influence for the continuance of the leniency heretofore granted to members of our society in that State in relation thereto —

The committee are continued and are desired to give such further attention to the subject as appears necessary —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, Rhode-Island 10th of 6mo — 1848 — Present 32 members — viz — Rowland Greene, John Warren, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Junr., Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, David H. Aikin, Stephen A Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, & Isaac Lawrence —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Benjamin Seebohm, & Robert Lindsey, from Great Britain, Richard Mott, Joshua Kimber, & William Wood from New York Yearly Meeting, John Scott from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, & Thomas Wells from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

We have likewise the acceptable company of our beloved friend Lindley M. Hoag, whose name stands as a member of this Meeting, but who during the past year has removed withi the limits of Newyork Yearly Meeting –

The committee in the case of the suit pending in Law, to whom was submitted the report prepared by them respecting the case, at this time again presented it with additions thereto, in which is contained a statement of the case in relation to Nantucket Monthly Meeting – And the report being again read, and satisfactory to the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to place it upon file –

The Committee to forward the Memorial to Congress against the Mexican War, presented the following report, viz.

"The Committee to forward the Memorial to Congress against the War with Mexico, Report –

That in accordance with their appointment, they forwarded copies thereof, which were presented to the Senate and House of Representatives, & that it so far received the favorable consideration of the House, as that they caused it to be printed – And that a letter has been received from Daniel P. King, member of the House of Representatives, to whose care the Memorial was entrusted, expressive of his opinion, that the principles set forth in the Memorial are claiming increased attention –

Newport 6mo. 10 – 1848 –

John Meader
Stephen A. Chase
John D. Lang
Samuel Boyce"
Committee"

And the letter referred to in the report being read, and satisfactory to the Meeting, the clerk was directed to place it upon file –

The committee appointed on account of a bill pending in Massachusetts Legislature in relation to a change in the militia laws of that State, presented the following report – viz –

The committee appointed in the 3mo – last, on account of a bill then pending in Massachusetts Legislature, proposing a change in the militia laws of that State, in addition to the information given last month, at this time report – That they have endeavoured to give such attention to their appointment as appeared necessary, and that the committee of the Legislature appointed to consider said bill appeared to be disposed to lend their aid in making such provisions as appeared desirable, in order for a continuance of the exemption of Friends, from military requisitions —

But the general features of the bill being disapproved by the Committee it was not adopted, and the Militia laws of that State, have undergone no change, during the last Session of the Legislature —

Newport 6mo — 10th 1848 —
Geo. Howland
Stephen A. Chase
John Meader
Samuel Boyce
William W. Chase"

Which is satisfactory, and the Committee are released from further attention thereto —

Our friends John Meader and Samuel Boyd Tobey, informed this meeting in the 2d mo. last that they had received from London Meeting for Sufferings, through our friends Josiah Forster and George Stacey, a number of copies of a volume printed by that meeting, containing a history of the labors of Friends in North America among the Indians, which were offered for the acceptance of our several monthly meetings — also a few copies of the London Rules of Discipline intended for our Quarterly Meetings — Our friends were encouraged to distribute said books agreeably to the intention of the donors and they now report that the service has been accomplished — We feel it right to record our grateful acceptance of these volumes, as a renewed evidence of the brotherly regard and kindness of our dear friends of London Meeting for Sufferings, and the Clerk is directed to forward to our Friends Josiah Forster and George Stacey, a copy of this minute —

A testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Lydia Breed, and one from Windham Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Noah Read, were at this time read and approved; and the clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again, at the call of the Clerk of

The Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 15th. of 6 mo. 1848 —

By the Clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year. Viz — Rowland Greene, John Warren, Estes Newhall, Matthew Purinton, James N. Frye, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Nichola Congdon, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Junr., Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Steph Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglass, William Fair, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber & Tobias Meader.

Present at this time 32 members —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this meeting the coming year —

We have at this time the acceptable company of Joshua Kimber & William Wood from New York Yearly Meeting, John Scott from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and Thomas Wells from Indiana Yearly Meeting, all of whom were present at our last meeting — We have also at this time the acceptable company of Seneca Hazard from New York Yearly Meeting —

It is concluded that the stated times and places of holding this Meeting the coming year, be the same as last year, viz —

At Lynn, on 4th day before the 3d. 5th day in the 8 mo — At New Bedford, on 4th day, before the 1st. 5th day in the 12 mo — At Providence on 4th day before the 1st. 5th day in the 2 mo — And at East Greenwich on 4th day before the 1st. 5th day in the 5th mo. all at 3 o clk. in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 5 o clk in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 16th of 8 mo. 1848 —

Present at this time 21 members, Viz — Estes Newhall, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Abra ham Barker, Lemuel Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglass, William Fair, William C. Taber, & Tobias Meader —

Our beloved Friend Thomas Wells from Indiana Yearly Meeting is also acceptably with us at this time —

The committee to provide for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting report that the expense incurred was 1348,23 $ cts. And the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting informs, that by & with the advice of said committee he has paid over to them the balance not already provided for, viz. 548,23 $ cts. Which meets the approbation of this meeting —

An Extract from the minutes of our last Yearly Meeting was received at this time as follows viz —

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, 6 mo. 1848 —

The Meeting for Sufferings in its discretion, is requested to examine, and cause to be printed, such Memorials of deceased Friends as have been approved by this Meeting since the last publication of these testimonies; a concern having been feelingly manifested in this meeting, for the circulation of those received the present year —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clk" —

Whereupon we appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, Thomas Anthony, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Timothy C. Collins, William C. Taber, Stephen A Chase, and Samuel Boyce, to ascertain what memorials have been received by the Yearly Meeting since the last publication of these testimonies, and to examine and report the same to a future meeting, with a view to their publication —

This meeting being informed by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, that there are in his possession a considerable number of Copies of the last publication of memorials of deceased Friends, we appoint William H. Chase, Perez Peck, William C. Taber, Joseph Taber, David Douglas, Lemuel Jones, John Osborne, and Tobias Meader, to cause the same to be distributed, in such manner as in their judgment will be most useful, and to report to this meeting, when the service is accomplished —

The following extract from our Yearly Meeting minutes, was also received at this time; viz —

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends, for New England, held on Rhode Island 6 mo. 1848 —

The Meeting for Sufferings is also requested to cause to be printed a sufficient number of our book of Discipline for the supply of our Meetings, and also for such of our members, as may desire to be possessed of the book, to be furnished to them at cost; And it is desired to prefix thereto, if way should open for it, a brief historical account, of the introduction and establishment of the Discipline among Friends" — Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Samuel Boyd Tobey clerk"

which claiming the deliberation of this meeting, we appoint our friends John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck, David Buffum, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Thomas Anthony, John Meader David Douglass Samuel Boyce. & Lemuel Jones, to give the subject of preparing a brief history of the introduction & establishment of the Discipline among Friends their careful consideration, and if way should open for it, prepare a history thereof; and present to our next meeting, with a view to its being inserted in the edition of our book of Discipline, which this meeting contemplates publishing pursuant to the foregoing minute of our Yearly Meeting —

And the clerk of this Meeting is requested to prepare and forward to our Monthly Meetings, a circular for Friends to open subscriptions for copies of the edition of our book of Discipline about to be published, and to report to a future meeting the number that may be subscribed for —

This Meeting believing that usefulness would result from having a correct statement prepared of the several meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, together with a definite account of the times and places at which each meeting is held, we appoint our friends, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, William C. Taber, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, William Farr, David K. Aikin, Joseph Taber, David Douglas, Lemuel Jones, Tobias Meader, Nathan Pope, Olney Thompson, John Osborne, James N. Frye, William H. Chase, and Samuel Taylor jr. to collect this information and prepare a statement thereof and present to a future meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford, 12 mo. 6th 1848.
Present at this time 13 members — Viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John Meader, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Lemuel Jones, David K. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglass, Isaac Lawrence, & William C. Taber —

The committee to examine such memorials of deceased Friends, as have been received since the last publication of these testimonies, and to report the same with a view to their being published, not being prepared to report at this time are continued —

The committee appointed at our last meeting, to cause the copies of the last publication of memorials of deceased Friends which were in the hands of the Treasurer, to be distributed, inform that their appointment has been attended to, and the memorials on hand have been forwarded to the several Quarterly Meetings —

The committee to take into consideration the subject of preparing a brief history of the introduction and establishment of the Discipline among Friends, pursuant to the minute of our last Yearly Meeting, inform that some attention has been given thereto; But not being prepared to report at this time, they are continued —

The Committee to prepare an account of the several meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, pursuant to a minute of this meeting in the 8 mo last, inform that attention has been given to their appointment; but not being prepared to make a full report at this time, they are continued. —

An application being made at this time by a Friend of Sandwich Monthly Meeting Mass, for advice in relation to a will by which a bequest is given for the use and benefit of Sandwich Preparative meeting, this meeting after considering the subject appoints our Friends William C. Taber, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, and David Buffum, a committee with whom Friends of that monthly meeting may consult and advise in relation thereto —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence 31st. of 1 mo 1849 —
Present at this time 18 members viz — Rowland Greene, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Parker, Thomas Harkness, & David Douglas —

The committee to examine such memorials of deceased Friends, as have been received by our Yearly Meeting since the last publication of these testimonies, with a view to their being published, report that they have attended to their appointment, and they find there has been received since the period refered to, memorials concerning the following Friends viz — Huldah B. Hoag, John Page, Alice Rathbun Phebe B. Taber, Noah Reed, & Lydia Breed; all of which have been examined, and the committee would recommend their being published; which being satisfactory to the Meeting, the committee are continued, and are requested to cause 3000 copies thereof to be printed, which they are desired to forward to our Quarterly Meetings for distribution; And they are requested to report to a future meeting when the service is accomplished —

The committee to prepare an account of the several Meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, pursuant to a minute of the 8 mo. last, inform that attention has been given to their appointment, and they have presented statements relative to some of the Quarterly Meetings; But not being prepared to report in full at this time, they are continued, and are desired to report at our next meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich 5 mo. 2. 1849.

Present at this time 17 members viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Moses H. Beede Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, & Thomas Harkness —

The committee to have the care of printing and forwarding to our Quarterly Meetings the memorials concerning our late beloved Friends Huldah B. Hoag & others, inform that they have attended to their appointment and that the memorials are printed, and a part of them have been forwarded to our Quarterly Meetings; And that care will be taken to have the remainder distributed according to the direction of this meeting —

The Committee to prepare an account of the several Meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, pursuant to a minute of the 8 mo. last, inform that since our last Meeting, some further statements relative to some of the Quarterly Meetings have been received — But not being prepared to report in full at this time, they are continued, and are desired to report at our next Meeting —

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay a bill of $87.74, at this time presented for expenses from 4 mo. 20th 1847 to 3 mo. 5th 1849, in relation to Boston Meeting House & Lot —

The Subject of providing for the accommodation of our next Yearly Meeting, claiming our consideration, we appoint William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Timothy C. Collins, and Perez Peck, to give such attention thereto as may appear necessary; And they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for 800 Dollars to be appropriated to that purpose — And Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting is requested to lend its aid as heretofore; And the Clerk is directed to forward to that Monthly Meeting a copy of this minute —

The committee upon the subject of preparing a brief history of the introduction of the Discipline into our Society, pursuant to a minute of our last Yearly Meeting, inform that they have given it their careful consideration, and that way has not opened for preparing any thing at present in relation thereto; And the Clerk of this meeting having reported that subscriptions have been received for about 200 copies of the book of Discipline, the committee are requested to have an edition of 500 copies thereof printed; It being believed that this number will be needed to meet the demands therefor —

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Abraham Shearman jr. was at this time read and approved: And the clerk was directed to lay it before our next Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 9th of 6mo. 1849. Present at this time 31 members. Viz. Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor jr., Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland Joseph Taber, Olney Thompson, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, David R. Akin, David Duglass, Isaac Lawrence, William C Taber, and Tobias Meader.

Our beloved friends Benjamin Seebohm, and Robert Lindsey, from Great Britain, George Carter, Eleazer Bales, Cornelius Duglass, Enos Pray, and Henry Wilson from Indiana Yearly Meeting, and Zebulon Weaver, & Nathaniel Sands from Newyork Yearly Meeting, are also acceptably with us at this time.

The Committee to prepare an account of the several Meetings composing this Yearly Meeting presented the following report. Viz.

"The committee to prepare an account of the several Meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, pursuant to a minute of the 8mo. last, have attended to their appointment, and have prepared definite accounts of all the Meetings, composing this Yearly Meeting, a Statement of which is herewith presented.

Newport 6mo. 9th 1849. On behalf of the Committee
William C Taber
Samuel Boyce"

Which is satisfactory. and we appoint our friends William C Taber, John Howland, and Samuel Boyce to take charge of the Statement that has been prepared, and arrange the same for publication, and append thereto a corrected map of our Yearly Meeting, and cause such number of copies thereof to be printed, as in their judgment may be deemed proper; and report to a future meeting when the service is accomplished.

The Committee to have charge of printing an edition of our book of discipline report that they have caused about 500 copies thereof to be printed, the expense of which is $214,55 ct; which amount the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay to our friend Samuel Boyd Tobey.

The committee appointed in the 12mo. last, with whom friends of Sandwich Monthly Meeting Mass. might consult and advise in relation to the settlement of an estate, at this time inform that a part of their number have had several consultations, with a few of the members of that meeting, and that they have endeavored to make such suggestions in relation to a settlement of said estate, as would tend to bring the case to an amicable conclusion. But a settlement not being effected, said monthly meeting has refered the subject to this meeting for its advice and assistance, as appears by the following minute of that Meeting. Viz.

"A report from the overseers in regard to the subject of Sarah Hoxie's will being received, it is proposed to refer the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, for their advice and assistance. Stephen Dillingham, David K. Aikin, Joseph Hoxie 3rd David Kelly and Nathan Wing, are appointed a committee to lay the subject before them."

"From the minutes of Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held 6mo. 1. 1849. Newell Hoxie Clerk".

Whereupon we appoint our friends, Samuel Taylor Jr, Joseph Metcalf, John Osborne, Perez Peck, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, together with the friends appointed in the 12 mo. last, a committee, with whom the friends appointed by that Monthly Meeting may consult and advice in relation thereto.

The Clerk is directed to lay our records for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 6 mo. 14th 1849–

By the Clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year – Viz – Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Periah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker of Tiverton, Lemuel Jones of Brunswick, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Ephraim Leighton, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, & Moses Taber – Present at this time thirty five members–

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Benjamin Seebohm, and Robert Lindsey from Great Britain, and George Carter from Indiana Yearly Meeting, who were present at our last meeting, and John Thom, from New York Yearly Meeting, and Francis T. King, from Baltimore Yearly Meeting –

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this Meeting for the coming year –

It is concluded that the times & places for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows – Viz – At Lynn, on 4th day, before the 2d 5th day in the 8 mo. at 3 o'clk in the afternoon; At New Bedford on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 12 mo. at 11 o'clk in the morning – At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo. at 3 o'clk, in the afternoon, At East Greenwich, on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 5 mo. at 3 o'clk in the afternoon; And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of Yearly Meeting at 5 o'clk in the afternoon –

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that this Meeting is directed to print another edition of 500 copies of our book of discipline

Whereupon we appoint our friends William C. Taber, & John Howland, to cause that number thereof to be printed, and to forward to those meetings that have not been supplied, such number of copies as are needed, and furnish subscribers and others from the remainder at cost – And they are requested to report to this meeting, when the service is accomplished –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 15th of the 8mo 1849 — Present twenty members viz — Estes Newhall, John Osborne, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Perez Peck, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, Nathan Pope, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Abraham Parker, Lemuel Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, and Micajah C. Pratt —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friend Enos Pray, from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The committee to provide for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, Report, that they have attended to their appointment, and that the expense incurred was $ cts 1311,26 — And the balance not already provided for viz. $ cts 511,26 has been paid by the Yearly meeting's Treasurer — which meets the approbation of this Meeting —

The Committee to arrange and cause to be printed, an edition of the account of the meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, pursuant to a minute of the 6mo last, inform they have attended to their appointment, and the work is partly accomplished — But not being completed, the committee are continued, and are requested to have 2000 copies thereof printed, & report to our next meeting —

The Committee to have an edition of 500 copies of our book of Discipline printed, inform that they have attended to their appointment, and that the work is partly accomplished; but not being wholly completed they are continued, and are requested to report at our next meeting —

Several Subjects connected with the welfare and best interests of our religious society, at this time claimed our serious attention; and after a time of solid consideration thereon, they were left to rest impressively upon the minds of Friends, to be introduced again, when way shall open for it —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in New Bedford, 12mo 5th 1849 — Present eighteen members Viz — Edward Wing, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr Samuel Boyce, John Howland, David R. Akin, David Douglass, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber & Micajah C. Pratt, —

The committee to arrange & cause to be printed an edition of the account of the Meetings, composing this Yearly Meeting and to prepare a map thereof to be appended thereto, presented the following report, viz —

"The Committee appointed to procure the printing of a new edition of the account of Meetings in New England Yearly Meeting, Report, that they have so far performed the service required of them as to arrange the information furnished, and cause it to be printed — The pamphlet is now ready for delivery — The cost of paper, printing &c. is 3 4/10 cents per copy — A map of the territory of New England Yearly Meeting has been drawn & terms obtained for engraving it, varying, from Seventy to Seventy Three Dollars, making the cost of map including paper &c. about five cts per copy — It is the opinion of the committee, that it would be desirable to obtain further information respecting the location of some of the meetings, before the map is engraved —

New Bedford
12 mo. 5th 1849
To the Meeting for Sufferings —

John Howland
Wm C. Taber
Samuel Boyce
Committee" —

Which is satisfactory; And the committee are continued, and are desired to obtain such further information as appears necessary in order for a correct completion of the map, and to cause the same to be published and report to our next meeting —

The Committee, to have another edition of our book of Discipline printed, presented the following Report, Viz —

"The Committee charged with printing a further number of copies of the book of Discipline, Report, that they have caused five Hundred, Twenty five copies to be printed at the cost of, two hundred fourteen Dollars Fifty Five cts — We have also delivered 256 copies agreeably to the direction of the Meeting as follows —

To Gilbert Congdon for the use of meetings in Rhode Island Quarter	41
" Samuel Boyce for Salem Quarter	30
" Sundry persons for Sandwich Quarter	39
" Samuel P. Tobey for the Yearly Meeting	2
" Sundry Individuals	153
	265
" Remaining Subject to the direction of the Meeting	260
	525

It will require 34 Copies to supply the meetings in Smithfield Quarter which have not been delivered, and a further number will probably be wanted for individuals in that Quarterly Meeting, and a few more in Sandwich Quarter —

New Bedford } To the Meeting for
12 mo. 5th 1849. } Sufferings —

John Howland
Wm C. Taber"

which is satisfactory; and the committee are continued, and are desired to see that our meetings are all furnished with such number of copies as is necessary, and to forward a sufficient number to our meetings to supply such subscriptions therefor as have been obtained; and Samuel Boyce is appointed to aid them in the service — And the meeting being informed that a portion of the last edition of the book is now on hand, the committee are requested to take charge thereof & dispose of them according to the previous direction of the Meeting — And the committee are directed to pay into the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting, such sums as may have been received from the sale of the book, and to draw on the Treasurer for the amount of expense incurred in the printing thereof —

The Treasurer is directed to pay to Samuel Boyce, Seventy Five Dollars, and Sixty Seven cts, for expenses incurred in relation to Boston Meeting House; and the care and attention of the overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting, respecting said house & lot, as reported at this time, are satisfactory to the Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 6th of 2d mo 1850 — Present at this time, 22 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Lemuel Jones, David K. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, and Micajah C. Pratt.

The committee to have the care of publishing an account of the meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, together with a map to be appended thereto, inform that attention has been given to their appointment, but not being prepared to Report in full, at this time, they are continued; and are desired to report at our next meeting —

The committee to have the care of furnishing our meetings, with books of Discipline, presented the following Report, Viz — "The committee to have the care of furnishing our meetings with books of Discipline, Report; That they have attended to their appointment, and they apprehend, that the service is now accomplished, as far as is practicable at present — Since their last Report, about 115 copies have been furnished to Meetings, and taken by individual purchasers, and there are now remaining on hand of both editions about 263 Copies —

The Committee have received from the Treasurer, the amount of expense incurred in publishing the book, and they have paid into the Treasury, such sums as have been obtained from Subscribers and others who have been furnished therewith —

Providence 2mo. 6th. 1850 — On behalf of the Committee
Wm. C. Taber"

Which is Satisfactory; And the Treasurer of our Yearly meeting is requested to take charge of the books remaining on hand, and to keep them for the purposes contemplated by the Yearly Meeting in their being published —

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at East-Greenwich 5mo. 1. 1850 — Present at this time 14 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr., Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, & Stephen A. Chase —

The Committee to have the care of publishing an account of the meetings composing this Yearly Meeting, together with a map thereof, at this time report, that the service has been accomplished, and that 1000 copies of the map have been published, which, together with 2000 copies of the account of our meetings, previously published by the committee are now ready for delivery — And the publisher having suggested that the expense of publication can probably be defrayed by allowing him to dispose of the pamphlets with the map annexed, at 17 cts. per copy, the Suggestion meets the approbation of this meeting, and in accordance therewith, the publisher has the liberty granted him, of taking the whole edition upon the foregoing terms —

A communication from Dartmouth Monthly Meeting is received at this time as follows — Viz —

"Benjamin Potter informed this meeting, that Benjamin Tucker had commenced a suit in law against him, to recover the amount of two hundred Dollars, it being the amount of the Mary Hart bequest to the North Preparative Meeting, the note having been given by Benjamin Potter for that amount, and placed in the hands of Benjamin Tucker as Trustee, in the year 1844, the year previous to the Secession from our society; Since which time he has been called on to give up the note to Friends, which he refuses to do; It is the judgment of this meeting, that the subject be refered to our Meeting for Sufferings, for their advice and assistance, and the Clerk is directed to furnish that Meeting with a copy of this minute and such other extracts from our minutes as may be required, and sign the same on our behalf" — "Extracted from the minutes of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting of Friends held 3mo. 27th. 1850 — "George Almy Clerk"

George Almy, Correspondent" —

Whereupon we appoint, Stephen A. Chase, George Howland, John Howland, & David Buffum, a committee with whom Friends of that Monthly Meeting may consult and advise in relation thereto; and they are requested to report at a future Meeting –

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting endorsed by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Mary Card, has at this time been read; and our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, John Meader, and Samuel Boyce, are appointed to examine and consider of said memorial, and present the same to our next Meeting –

The subject of providing for the accommodation of our next Yearly Meeting, claiming our consideration, we appoint our friends William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck, & Micajah C. Pratt, to give such attention thereto as may appear necessary – And they are authorized to draw from our Treasury 800 Dollars to be appropriated to that purpose; and Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting is requested to extend its aid as heretofore; and the clerk is directed to furnish that Meeting with a copy of this minute –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 15th of 6mo – 1850 – Present at this time 33 members – Viz – Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Samuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, and Thomas Jones –

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Richard Mott, Thomas Willis, Nathaniel Sands, Richard Carpenter, Natha Hoag, Mahlon Day, Tristam Allen, William Cromwell and David Sands, from New York Yearly Meeting –

The committee to whom was refered for consideration the memorial respecting our late beloved friend Mary Card, at this time presented it, and it being again read & approved, the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting –

A testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Anna A. Jenkins, was at this time read & approved; and the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to meet again on 2nd day evening at 8 o clk – at this place –

Second day evening the 17th, met pursuant to adjournment —

Testimonies concerning our late beloved friends Thomas Howland of Greenwich Monthly Meeting, Henry Chase & wife, of Salem Monthly Meeting, and Ruth Osborne of Weare Monthly Meeting, were read & approved; And the Clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

A testimony of Unity Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend John Warren was also read, and after a time of deliberation, it was refered to our friends, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, John Meader, and Samuel Taylor Jr. for further consideration, with a view to their preparing some further testimony to be added thereto, by this meeting, should way open for it — And they are requested to report at an adjournment of this meeting —

The following communication was at this time received viz — "To the Meeting for Sufferings —

We believe it proper to inform the Meeting for Sufferings, that at the last Session of the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, a Bill was reported, and had passed several Stages in one branch of said Legislature, by the operation of which, if enacted in the form reported, it would be rendered doubtful if the provisions of the law allowing Friends to solemnize marriages according to their order which had been in force for a long series of years, would remain unrepealed — When this bill came to our knowledge; there was not sufficient time to consult other members of this meeting, before it would be likely to be enacted; We therefore prepared an amendment to the Bill by way of Proviso, specially exempting from repeal the long established law of marriage in relation to Friends — This amendment we procured to be presented to the Legislature and it was adopted — We herewith present a Copy of the Act as passed with the Proviso refered to, by which it will be perceived, that the priveleges heretofore allowed to Friends in relation to marriage are still continued to them —

Sixth month 17th 1850 — Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce"

And the attention given to the subject by our Friends, is satisfactory to the Meeting; It appearing upon the reading of the act, that that Friends in that State would have been liable to much embarrassment, had it been passed in its original form —

The Clerk is authorized to furnish Dartmouth Monthly meeting, with a copy of the minute made in the 5 mo. last, in relation to the communication from that Monthly Meeting

Adjourned to meet again on 4th day morning at 9 o clk on the 19th Instant

Fourth day morning the 19th, met pursuant to adjournment

The committee to whom was referred the testimony concerning John Warren, at this time presented it, & the Clerk is directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting

They have also produced a testimony to be added thereto by this meeting, which is as follows Viz

On the reading of the foregoing testimony from Unity monthly meeting, concerning our late beloved friend John Warren, who for many years was a useful & valued member of this meeting, his memory was brought very sweetly before us, and we believe it right to record our testimony also, to the efficacy of the operations of Divine grace, so peculiarly exemplified in its effects upon our dear friend

The simplicity of his life - his careful walk - his love for his fellow men - his devotion to the cause of our Holy Redeemer, are worthy of the imitation of all, & were truly edifying & instructive — Without those advantages of education, which are now possessed by most, his manners, & his conversation, were dignified, & instructive - that gentleness & wisdom being manifested, which gave full evidence that he had been taught in the School of Christ,

His ministry was powerful, persuasive, & baptizing, to which the declaration of the Apostle may in measure be applied, "my Speech & my preaching was not with enticing words of mans wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit, & of power" And in his approaches to Throne of Grace in vocal Supplication, a deep solemnity, a reverential awe, & a Child like dependence were manifested, which were truly Solemnizing, tendering, & Strengthening — Through the grace of God, he was, what he was, & we fervently desire, that the power of this grace, thus exemplified, may prove confirming & encourageing to all, & that in humility, & in faith, we may be livingly engaged to serve the same adorable Savior, that at the end we may receive a Crown of Righteousness

Which being approved by this meeting, the clerk was directed to annex the same to the testimony of Unity Monthly Meeting, & sign it on our behalf

The memory of our late beloved friend Thomas Howland being at this time again brought sweetly before us, we are concerned to issue the following testimony in relation to him viz —

The foregoing testimony respecting our late dear friend Thomas Howland, having been read in this meeting, and the remembrance of him being precious to us, we believe it right to testify in addition that as a member & for many years Clerk of this meeting, his truly Christian deportment, his industry, & his mildness, & gentleness of demeanor were very instructive — And we believe in his labors of love in the administration of the discipline in our Society, he was an example of humble dedication & uprightness — In this service he was often engaged, & devoted much time thereto, & in visiting meetings distant from home — In these engagements, we believe he was careful to move under the Divine appointment, & was very useful in the promotion of right order, & of love & unity among Friends — There are many among us in various parts, who hold in pleasant remembrance his visits to them, & his upright & meek labors for the promotion of the best interests of the Society he so dearly loved, & the Cause he had espoused — In his intercourse with the young, & especially as their teacher, the beauties of his character were conspicuous — The gentleness of his manner won their love, his sincerity & goodness their respect & esteem — It was by love he influenced them, & in love that he sought to convince their judgments, of the propriety of his instructions and wishes — And they loved him for his virtues, & were incited to love the truth from its effects as exemplified in his Character — He possessed in large measure, the elements desirable in a friend — With decision of Character, there was with him great mildness of Spirit — and charity for others in their opinions, & even with their errors & faults — With decided conclusions of duty & unwavering religious faith, there was a full acknowledgement of the sincerity of others, & a readiness to accord cheerfully to all, their just claims to sympathy & consideration —

He was sound in the faith, and from deep conviction a believer in the truths of the Gospel, and of the consistency therewith of those precious testimonies which Friends are called upon to bear — And we believe he was very careful by his consistent & upright walking to manifest that faith — Yet his charity could embrace whatever was good or true in all — and found its exercise in the promotion of the happiness of all, & as he found opportunity, in doing good unto all men —

The excellencies of his character were as we fully believe the fruits of the spirit, & of religious dedication to its renovating and

Sanctifying operations — It was not of himself, but as we believe by the grace of God through Jesus Christ our Lord that he was what he was — and to the excellency of that Grace, should be ascribed all the praise —

And the Clerk is directed to annex said testimony, to that of Greenwich monthly, & sign it on our behalf —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting, before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce Clerk —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 21st of 6 mo 1850—

By the Clerk of our Yearly Meeting, we are informed, that the same friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year— Present at this time, 33 members, viz— Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones & David Douglas—

Our beloved friends, Thomas Willis, Nathaniel Sands, William Cromwell, & David Sands, are also again acceptably with us—

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this Meeting for the coming year—

It is concluded that the times & places of holding this meeting the coming year, be as follows. Viz— At Windham on 4th day before the 1st 6th day in the 9 mo at 4 o clk. in the afternoon; At New Bedford, on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 12 mo at 11 o clk. in the morning; At Providence, on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo at 3 o clk in the afternoon; At East-Greenwich on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 5 mo at 3 o clk in the afternoon; And at Newport, on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5 o clk. in the afternoon—

By the clerk of the Yearly Meeting, we are informed, that the subject of the further distribution of the document prepared by the Committees who met in Conference at Baltimore is referred to this meeting— and it appearing that our friends of New York, are about printing said document, we appoint Samuel Boyd Tobey, to obtain 1000 copies thereof, & distribute them in such way, as will meet the Concern of the Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned, to meet again in Providence, on 3d day, before the 2d 5th day, in the 7 mo at 10 o clk. in the morning—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence pursuant to adjournment, 9th of 7 mo 1850— Present at this time, 18 members. Viz— Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd

Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Lemuel Jones, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, & William C. Taber –

The following communication was at this time received from our Yearly Meeting viz –

"At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, in the sixth month, 1850 –

Believing that the publication of the Memorials, presented to this Meeting the present year, together with such as have been heretofore received since the last publication was ordered, may tend to usefulness, the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to attend to the subject, and cause such number to be printed as may be deemed desirable –

The following proposition from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting in relation to the Discipline, was referred to the careful consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings, that its views in relation thereto, may be presented to this meeting next year – Viz –

A proposition came up on the minutes from Vassalboro' Monthly meeting, for a regulation of Discipline, so that names proposed to the Select Preparative Meetings for Select members, may go to the Select Quarterly Meetings, before being introduced into the Monthly Meetings. Which being satisfactory, this, & the women's Quarterly Meeting, are united in submitting the same to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting –

From the minutes of the Meeting –

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our friends William C. Taber, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, Rowland Greene, & Joseph Metcalf, to carefully consider of, & revise the Memorials referred to, as far as may appear necessary, & cause 2000 copies thereof to be printed, & Report to a future Meeting –

The subject from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, claiming our serious attention, after a time of deliberation thereon, it was referred to our next Meeting, for further consideration –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Windham, 4th of 9 mo 1850 – Present at this time 18 members – Viz – David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Nathan Pope, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Lemuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones & William Farr –

The Committee to have the care of printing the Memorials of deceased friends, pursuant to a minute of our last Yearly Meeting. Report; that the service is accomplished, & that they have caused 2000 copies thereof to be printed, which are now ready for delivery at the cost — viz — six cts per copy — which is satisfactory — And it being believed, that usefulness would result, from a general circulation thereof, it is the conclusion of this Meeting, that our Monthly Meetings be encouraged to adopt such measures, as may be deemed advisable for obtaining & distributing them; and the clerk is directed to furnish our Monthly Meetings with a copy of this minute — And the Committee are desired to take such further care, as may appear necessary in relation to the distribution of the Memorials, & report to a future Meeting —

And this Meeting apprehending that the contents of these memorials would be acceptable to Friends of other Yearly Meetings, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to the several Meetings for Sufferings, for their acceptance, & furnish them with an extract from this minute —

The proposition from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, again claiming our attention, after a time of deliberation thereon, we appoint our friends David Buffum, Stephen Jones, Samuel Taylor Jr, William C. Taber, Stephen A. Chase, Joseph Metcalf, John Osborne, Nathan Pope, Estes Newhall, Tobias Meader, & John D. Lang, to take the subject into careful consideration, & report their views thereon, at a future Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford, 4th of 12 mo 1850 — Present at this time 15 members — viz — Estes Newhall, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, Stephen A. Chase, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, & Micajah C. Pratt —

The Friend appointed to obtain & distribute 1000 copies of the document prepared by the Committee who met in conference in Baltimore, reports, that the service is accomplished —

The Clerk informs that attention has been given to forwarding copies of the Memorials of deceased Friends, to the several Meetings for Sufferings as directed in the 9 mo — And the following communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of North-Carolina Yearly Meeting was received at this time, acknowledging the receipt of the Memorials by that

Meeting. Viz—

"A communication from the Meeting for Sufferings for New England Yearly Meeting, together with a number of copies of Memorials of deceased Friends of that Meeting, was acceptably received by this Meeting— And [it] directs that each Quarterly Meeting be furnished with a copy thereof, and appoints A. U. Tomlinson, Joseph Newlin, Joshua Stanley, David White, John Russel, Thomas Kennedy, and David Morgan to attend to the distribution of the same— The Clerk is directed to acknowledge the reception of the same, to the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting—

Extracted from the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, the 1st day of 11 mo 1850—

A. U. Tomlinson, Clerk"

It appearing that there are a considerable number of our books of Discipline of the last edition, under the care of the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting, it is considered advisable that the Treasurer distribute a portion of them among Friends in this Yearly Meeting, in such way, as in his judgment will be most useful—

Several subjects connected with the welfare and best interests of our Society, have at this time claimed our serious consideration, which have been left to rest impressively upon the minds of Friends, to be introduced again as way shall open for it—

At a Special Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, held at Providence, 31st of 12 mo 1850—

Present 14 Members Viz— Rowland Greene, John Osborne, David Buffum, Peres Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Abraham Barker & William C. Taber

The Clerk informs that he has received the following notice, & in accordance therewith he has called this Meeting. Viz—

"To Samuel Boyce Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings—

There being in our opinion, a subject requiring the Consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings, at an earlier day than that fixed for the next regular meeting, we hereby request thee to call a Special Meeting of that body to be holden at Friends' School House in Providence on third day the 31st of this present month, at 12 o clock at Noon— Dated this 25th of the 12 mo 1850— (Signed)

Stephen A. Chase, Abijah Chase Estes Newhall, Micajah

C. Pratt, Samuel Boyd Tobey, George Howland, William C. Taber"

Information is received that a Convention of delegates is now in session in New-Hampshire, for the purpose of revising the Constitution of that State, and that the subject of exempting those, who are conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, from military requisitions has received their attention, and this Meeting, apprehending that some care may be needful, in order that the privilege of exemption from military requisitions may be continued to Friends, We appoint John Osborne, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, & Samuel Boyce, to give such attention to the subject, as may appear necessary —

— At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 5th of 2 mo. 1851 — Present at this time 22 members viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Thomas Harkness, David H Akin Stephen A. Chase, William C Taber, John Osborne, & Micajah C. Pratt —

The Committee to provide for the accommodation of our last Yearly Meeting, at this time presented an account by which it appears, that the expenses incurred were $1037^{D}.22^{cts}$ — and that the balance not already provided for viz — $237^{D}.22^{cts}$ — has been paid by the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting — Which is satisfactory —

The Committee to take the necessary care in relation to the continuance to Friends in the State of New-Hampshire, of the privilege of exemption from military requisitions, inform that they have given such attention to the subject as way has yet opened for — The Committee are continued, and are desired to extend such further care as may appear needful —

— At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East-Greenwich 30th of 4th mo 1851 — Present at this time, 16 members viz — Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Stephen A Chase, and William C. Taber —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friend Jared Patterson from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The Committee to take into consideration the subject brought before our last Yearly Meeting, by Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, at this time presented a Report; and after a season of deliberation thereon, it was referred to our next Meeting for further consideration.

A Communication from Uxbridge Monthly Meeting was recd at this time as follows viz.

"To the Meeting for Sufferings, for New-England Yearly Meeting.

Nancy H. Earle having removed from Philadelphia Monthly Meeting for the Southern District" in [the] 9 mo. 1849, and settled within the limits of our meeting, her friends requested a removal certificate, in her behalf, and not obtaining one, a request was sent from our Monthly Meeting to theirs, in the 8 mo. 1850, since which, she has herself requested in writing, and no official notice having been taken of these several requests, after deliberate consideration, we conclude to place the facts of the case in your hands, & ask your advice.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting.

Edward Earle }
Ann R Colton } Clerks"

Worcester 3 mo. 31. 1851.

The following communication was also received from the Clerk of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting viz.

"The subjoined communication was received & read in Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting in the 2d mo. last, and directed to be laid before the Meeting for Sufferings, for its advice and direction as to the proper course to be pursued.

David Buffum Clerk of Rhode-Island
Monthly Meeting."

"Salem Ohio. 1 mo. 27th. 1851.

The enclosed certificate for Moses H. Beede, wife, & daughter, was presented to Salem Monthly Meeting, on the 22d Instant, and after a time of deliberation thereon, by the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to return it to the signers of it, with the information that owing to the division that has taken place in New-England Yearly Meeting, and that subject having claimed the attention of our Yearly Meeting, and as it has not decided which of the two bodies now claiming to be the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, it will recognise as the genuine Society of Friends, the Meeting could not accept it.

To Jethro F. Mitchell
David Buffum
Mary Williams

Respectfully I am Your Friend
Samuel Scattergood. Clerk
of Salem Monthly Meeting."

And after a time of deliberation thereon, it was concluded to commit these several Subjects, with the communications, to those members of our Yearly Meeting, who are appointed to meet in conference in Baltimore, with similar committees from other Yearly Meetings, with a view of having the subject brought before that body should way open for it—

And the Clerk was directed to furnish said committee with a copy of this minute, & sign it on our behalf—

A memoir concerning Elizabeth M. Meader late of Dover, was at this time read; and it was referred to our friends Stephen A Chase, Samuel Boyce, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, for their examination & revision, to be presented again at a future Meeting

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 14th of 6mo 1851— Present at this time 31 members— Viz— Rowland Greene, Estis Newhall, James N. Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Tucker, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Samuel Jones, Stephen Jones jr, David K. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, & Thomas Jones—

Our beloved friends, Benjamin Seebohm, & Robert Lindsey, from England, are again acceptably with us—

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Daniel Wood, & James Owen, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, & James Jorden, William Cromwell, & Edward Marshall, from Newyork Yearly Meeting—

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the proposition from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, again claiming our attention, after a season of solid deliberation thereon, it was referred to an adjournment of this Meeting for further consideration—

A Memorial from China Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Martha J. Hodges, was at this time read & approved; and the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned to meet again on 4th day morning the 18th Instant at 8 o clk—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport by adjournment on 4th day morning the 18th Instant. Present at this time 32 members; being the same Friends who were present at our last meeting, & Edward Wing in addition thereto —

Our beloved friends Benjamin Seebohm, Robert Lindsey, James Boden, & James Owen, who were in attendance at our last meeting, are again acceptably with us —

A Communication from New York Meeting for Sufferings, acknowledging the receipt of the memorials forwarded them by this Meeting was received at this time as follows viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New-England Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

At the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting, held in New York 7th of 4 mo. 1851 — A communication from your Meeting held 4th of 9 mo. 1850 was received, informing us, that a collection of Memorials of deceased Friends of New-England Yearly Meeting, had by its direction been printed — and expressing a belief that those memorials would be acceptable to Friends of other Yearly Meetings —

The Clerk was directed to inform the Meeting for Sufferings of New England, that their communication, together with four copies of the work accompanying it, were very acceptable —

Signed by direction of the aforesaid meeting
Richard Carpenter Clerk"

The committee to take the necessary care respecting the continuance to Friends in the State of New Hampshire of the privilege of exemption from military requisitions, presented the following Report viz — "The committee appointed in the 12 mo. last to extend the necessary care, in relation to the their proposed action of a Convention of delegates, assembled for the purpose of revising the Constitution of the State of New Hampshire, on the subject of military requisitions from Friends, report — That we have given attention to the appointment — Interviews with prominent members of the Convention were had by members of the Committee, and believing that usefulness would arise from the measure, the committee had printed an edition of a memorial presented to the Legislature of Virginia by the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of that State several years ago, with the letter of Benjamin Bates accompanying it, and also an edition of the essay on civil Government prepared

and published by our Meeting for Sufferings in 1840 —
These were distributed to members of the convention and others, it is believed with good effect — The amendments to the Constitution proposed by the Convention were not adopted by the people of the State — so that the requisite law remains unchanged — But we apprehend that some attention may be proper to be given by this meeting to the Legislation of New Hampshire on the subject of military requisitions.

On behalf of the Committee —
Newport 6mo. 17th 1851 — Stephen A. Chase"

Which is satisfactory; and the Committee are continued, & are desired to give such further attention to the subject as may be deemed needful —

The Committee of our Yearly Meeting appointed to meet in Conference at Baltimore to whom was referred for consideration the communications from Uxbridge & Rhode-Island Monthly Meetings, presented the following Report. viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —
We of the committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting, to meet with Committees of other Yearly Meetings in Conference at Baltimore to consult in relation to the present state of our religious Society, to whom was referred by this Meeting, the communications from Uxbridge & Rhode-Island Monthly Meetings, report — That we brought those subjects before the united Committees, and that it appeared to be the solid sense of all the Friends then assembled; that under the present painful circumstances in which we are situated in relation to Philadelphia, and Ohio Yearly Meetings, the Cause of Truth will be best subserved by our abiding in patience in relation to the interruption to the good order of Society in regard to Certificates, even though it may require individual suffering — that we be careful on our part faithfully to maintain our own discipline, so far as any action of ours is concerned —
That tender & sympathetic encouragement, should be extended to those members who may in some respects be deprived of those rights which they have not forfeited by any acts of their own — trusting that way will open in the orderings of truth for the removal of these difficulties, which are now so seriously interrupting the harmony ~~the~~ ~~harmony~~ of Society —
Newport 6mo. 14. 1851" Signed —

"John Osborne
Stephen A Chase
Samuel Boyce
Samuel Boyd Tobey
David Buffum
John D. Lang
Samuel Taylor Jr"

Which after a time of consideration is united with; and the clerk was directed to forward to each of those meetings, a copy of the Report, together with a copy of the minute made in relation to the disposition of the communications when they were received

The report of the committee appointed to consider the proposition from Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting; being again considered was accepted & is as follows viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings

We, your committee appointed in the 9 mo. last, to consider the subject of the proposition from Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, respecting a regulation of discipline in relation to the order to be observed in the introduction of the names of Friends proposed for select members, have met and solidly Considered the same, and are now united in proposing the following regulation of discipline which accompanies this report — which we submit to the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings —

East Greenwich 4 mo. 30th 1851 — On behalf of the Committee —
Joseph Metcalf
David Buffum
Stephen A Chase
Samuel Taylor Jr"

And the clerk is directed to lay what the committee have prepared before our Yearly Meeting —

A memorial from Uxbridge Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friend Royal Southwick, was read & approved; & the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to whom was referred for revision the memoir concerning Elizabeth M. Meader late of Dover, at this time presented it, and being again read, it was approved. & the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting for its disposal —

The Clerk was directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting — Signed on behalf of the meeting

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 20th of 6mo 1851 —

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, with the exception of our beloved Friend, Jonathan Dennis, deceased — Present at this time, 30 members, viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker of Tiverton, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Stephen Jones Jr, David R. Akin, David Douglass, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, & Thomas Jones —

Our beloved Friends James Jordan, William Cromwell, & Edward Marshall, from Newyork Yearly Meeting, are again acceptably with us —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this Meeting, the coming year —

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this Meeting the coming year be as follows — viz —

At Vassalboro on 5th day after the 1st 6th day in the 9 mo — at 10 o'clk, in the morning —

At New Bedford on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 12 mo — at 11 o clk in the morning —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2d mo — at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

At East Greenwich on 4th day before the 1st 5th day, in the 5 mo — at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And, at Newport on 7th day previous to the Commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5 o clk, in the afternoon —

The following communication was received at this time from our Yearly Meeting — viz — "The Clerk of the Meeting of Ministers and Elders informed us that our beloved friend Sybil Jones has been liberated, to pay a visit in gospel love to Friends and some not in profession with us, in Great Britain and Ireland — to some parts of the Continent of Europe, and if way should open for it, to extend the visit to some places on the Western Coast of Africa, particularly to Sierra Leone, and the Republic of Liberia, and some of the adjacent Islands,— and to a few of the West-India Islands— and that our beloved friend Eli Jones, has also been liberated to accompany his wife in this religious engagement — in view of the extent of the proposed visit the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to afford its aid to our dear friends, in making such provisions as may be needed in its accomplishment —

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our friends Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, George Howland, and Samuel Boyce, to render our friends Eli and Sybil Jones, such advice and assistance, as may at present be necessary —

At a Special Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, held in Lynn 20th of 8 mo. 1851 —

Present at this time 17 members, viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Samuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Ephraim Leighton, and Micajah C. Pratt —

The Clerk informs that in accordance with the following notice he has called this Meeting viz —

"To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings —

There being in our opinion circumstances which require the attention of the Meeting for Sufferings, before the next regular Meeting, we hereby request thee to call a special Meeting of that body to be held this evening at Friends' Meeting House in this place at 7 1/2 o'clk —

Lynn 8 mo. 20th 1851 —

Joseph Metcalf
Estes Newhall
Rowland Greene
John D. Lang
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Stephen A. Chase"

The Committee to render such advice and assistance to our friends Eli and Sybil Jones, as might appear necessary, presented the following Report viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee appointed 6 mo. 20th last to render to our friends Eli & Sybil Jones such advice & assistance as might appear necessary in relation to the prosecution of their concern to pay a religious visit in Foreign parts, Report — That shortly after their appointment they were informed, that our friends, felt their minds drawn first to proceed in their visit to the Republic of Liberia, & the Colony of Sierra Leone with the parts adjacent —

Under these circumstances, such assistance was rendered them as the case seemed to require — Arrangements were made through our kind friend Francis T. King of Baltimore, for their passages to Liberia, in the Barque Liberia Packet — and the necessary stores for their use provided —

They were accompanied to Baltimore by our Friends Samuel & Eliza B. Boyce, who with Francis T King, and a few other Friends went with them down the Bay from thence to where the Barque lay, and saw them comfortably on board, — and after a solemn season of silent waiting, wherein their minds were tenderly united in Christian love — took their leave of them — Our friend Sybil Jones expressing for herself & her husband, the favour of their feeling themselves to be in their right places, and having no wish to be otherwise than where they were —

Their passages amounting to Two Hundred Dollars, and other expenses attending their embarkation amounting to 332 Dollars, were paid by the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer, who also furnished them with ready money for their future expenses to the amount of 600 Dolls — Making the whole expenditure 1132 Dollars —

The members of the Committee who were together, at the time of our dear friends leaving New-England for embarkation, considering the magnitude of the concern in which they felt themselves bound to engage, and that the field of labor first presenting itself to them was almost if not entirely new to Friends — and would lead them away from any established Meetings of our religious Society — felt their minds drawn in gospel love to address to them a letter, embracing in some measure the concern of the Committee on their account — A copy of which letter is herewith submitted —

The Committee would suggest that as the visit of our dear friends is now to be prosecuted on the Eastern side of the Atlantic Ocean, and the proposed visit extends to the British Colony of Sierra Leone — that it would best comport with good order — to send to the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London copies of the Certificates issued to our friends Eli & Sybil Jones, with information of their present engagement —

Which we submit to the Meeting — John D. Lang
Lynn 8 mo 20 — 1851 — David Buffum
Samuel Boyce Stephen A. Chase
Stephen Jones" Samuel Boyd Tobey"

which is satisfactory — And the letter referred to in the Report is as follows viz—

"Beloved friends Eli and Sybil Jones—

We of the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings, & of the Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, appointed to advise with and assist you, in relation to the prosecution of your prospect of a religious visit in foreign parts, would now inform you that we have made arrangements with respect to the expenses of your journey so far as now seems necessary — You will be furnished with 800 Dolls, about 742 Dolls of which is in British Coin, mostly Sovereigns, of the value here, of about $4.90 cts each, making the amount as before stated of 800 Dollars—

You will also be furnished with letters of credit from Rufus Greene Jr. of Providence to James B. McGill, Monrovia, and S. F. McGill, Cape Palmas, authorizing you to draw on David Buffum Treasurer of New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends, for any sum you may need not exceeding One Thousand Dollars—

We have this day by Telegraph sent a message to Francis T. King of Baltimore, requesting him to procure for you a letter of credit there, to be used in Africa, authorizing you to draw on the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer, for any sum not exceeding One Thousand Dollars — The authority to draw which we have thus arranged to furnish you, we intend as a means to insure you from any want of funds, properly and suitably to prosecute your journey — It is proper however for you to understand that these funds are to be applied solely to your necessary expenses, and not for any purposes of charity, or to be applied to any other object — We think it our place and duty, to impress upon you, the necessity of an economical expenditure, and while we desire that you should furnish yourselves, with every thing which will conduce to your outward comfort and convenience, and tend to alleviate the privations, and fatigues, incident to your travels, we would also desire you to let a wise economy and moderation, govern you in all things, and according to apostolic injunction, that you should let your moderation be known unto all men — The funds in ready money which you take with you, we apprehend may be sufficient to supply your wants until you arrive in England, which we understand from you, you are looking forward to occur, in the Spring of next year — The letters of credit are furnished, to enable you to replenish your funds, if your expenditures up to that time, should exceed the money in hand—

We feel it matter of propriety and duty, to advise you to keep an accurate account of your expenditures, and from time to time as opportunity offers, to transmit a copy of this account to Samuel Boyce Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, to be laid before that Meeting—

And now beloved friends, you having as we trust, been separated according to the mind of Truth, to the work which lies before you, & we being about to part with you, to proceed in its accomplishment, our minds are engaged in the love of the gospel, to counsel you to live near to the blessed truth, dwell therein in all lowliness of mind — And we beseech you to keep your eye single unto Him, & then shall your whole body be full of light — As your present prospect leads you away from the immediate care of Friends, and from that watchfulness over one another for good, which in infinite wisdom is ordained for the safety and usefulness of His Church, which is his body, we desire to impress upon you the necessity which this circumstance imposes upon you, to watch over your own selves, your own spirits, and your own conduct & conversation, dwelling in watchfulness unto prayer, that you may be preserved in that path in which alone safety lies —

We would affectionately revive to your remembrance, the injunction of the Apostle Paul to Timothy, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery — Meditate upon these things — Give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all — Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine, continue in them, for in doing this, thou shalt both save thyself, & those that hear thee" —

We believe it right to request you, in order that Friends may be enabled to know how you prosper in the Truth, & learn of your spiritual health & prosperity, that you should keep as way may open for it, a journal of your travels exercises, & services, & from time to time transmit an abstract or copy of the same, to the clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, that Friends may exercise that sound judgment & care over you, as far as may be, which it is the bounden duty of the church to do, in the wisdom of the Truth —

And now beloved friends farewell — We commend you to God, & to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified — And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, & the love of God, & the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you — So desire your sincere friends —

Providence 7 mo 13. 1851 —

David Buffum
Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce
Susan Howland"

And the Clerk is directed to communicate the necessary information respecting our friends Eli & Sybil Jones' present engagement to London Meeting for Sufferings, & to forward to that Meeting copies of their certificates; the clerk of our Select Yearly Meeting & of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting being requested to furnish duplicates thereof for that purpose —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Vassalboro 9mo 11th 1851 — Present at this time 18 members, viz — John Osborne, Joseph Metcalf, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, John Howland, Joseph Taber, Samuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, & Moses Taber —

We have also the acceptable company of our friend David Wood from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The Clerk being absent, Stephen A. Chase is appointed Clerk for this time —

A Communication from the Clerk of this Meeting, was at this time received, which with the communication to London Meeting for Sufferings referred to therein, being approved, they were adopted, and are as follows, viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

Agreeably to the direction of the Meeting held at Lynn 8mo 20th last, the necessary information respecting our Friends Eli & Sybil Jones has been communicated to the Meeting for Sufferings, of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, by addressing to that Meeting a communication of which the following is a true copy, accompanied by the certificates referred to therein —

Lynn 8mo 28th 1851 — Samuel Boyce

From our Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England — At a Meeting holden at Lynn, in the State of Massachusetts, 8mo 20th 1851 —

To the Meeting for Sufferings, of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in London —

Dear Friends —

At our Yearly Meeting held on Rhode-Island in the 6mo last, our beloved friend Sybil Jones, was liberated in the order of our religious society, to pay a visit in gospel love to Friends, & some not in profession with us, in Great Britain & Ireland, to some part of the continent of Europe, and if way should open for it, to extend the visit to some places, on the Western Coast of Africa, particularly to Sierra Leone, and the Republic of Liberia, & some of the adjacent Islands, & to a few of the West India Islands; and our beloved friend Eli Jones was in like manner liberated, to accompany his wife in this religious engagement: information whereof was communicated by the Correspondents of our Yearly Meeting, to the Correspondents of your Yearly Meeting —

In view of the extent of the proposed visit, this Meeting was requested by the Yearly Meeting to afford its aid to our dear friends, in making such provision as may be needed in its accomplishment —

Soon after the time of our Yearly Meeting, the minds of our dear friends, seemed turned to the prospect of first prosecuting their concern upon the Western Coast of Africa & the adjacent Islands — and having on weighty consideration, come to the conclusion to pursue that course, they took passage on board the Barque "Liberia Packet", bound for Monrovia in the Republic of Liberia, and sailed on their voyage on the 20th of 7th month last from Baltimore —

This Meeting in pursuance of the request of the Yearly Meeting, have extended to them such aid, and made such provision for the prosecution of their proposed visit in Africa, and the adjacent Islands, as seemed requisite —

We think it right to inform you of the present engagement of our beloved friends, & to forward to you copies or duplicates of the certificates issued on their behalf by the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings to which they belong, and also of the certificates furnished them by our Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders, which we herewith enclose —

We desire for our beloved friends thus separated to the work of the gospel, in a field of labor remote from the immediate company and sympathy of Friends, whilst in Africa, that they may partake largely of the consolation, which aboundeth by Christ, and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, they may witness preservation, & be enabled by the grace of God, in all lowliness of mind, to bring honor to the Cause of our gracious Redeemer, & peace to their own minds —

We commend them to your Christian sympathy and desire your interest in the gospel on their behalf, and if any circumstances should occur, which should render the aid of Friends on your side of the Atlantic desirable, we request you would on our account, extend the necessary care —

With the Salutation of Love, we are your friends & brethren —
Signed on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings aforesaid by
Samuel Boyce Clerk"

The Committee appointed in the 12 mo. last to extend the necessary care in relation to the continuance to Friends, in the State of New Hampshire of exemption from military requisitions — which Committee reported in part in the 6 mo. last, & were then continued for further attention to the subject, now presented the following Report — Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee continued at the last Meeting to give such further attention to the subject of the continuance to Friends of exemption from Military requisitions in the State of New Hampshire Report; That it was concluded, that three of their number should meet at Concord on the 27th of 6 mo. last, during the session of the Legislature of that State, to represent the concern of Friends on that subject, to that body –

Unavoidable circumstances prevented the attendance, of two of the members of the committee as proposed – But the remaining member attended and proceeded in the concern as proposed –

At his request, several of the members of the committee on military affairs of the Legislature gave him an opportunity of explaining the views of Friends on the subject of their testimony against war &c military preparations – and he was favored to obtain from them a candid & favorable consideration of the views presented –

At the close of the interview, the chairman of the committee expressed their views, that the claims of Friends for complete exemption from all military requisitions, ought to be provided for by law – The military committee accordingly reported to the Legislature a bill on Military Subjects containing a provision for exemption of Friends as proposed –

The opportunity was embraced to distribute among the members of the Legislature, several hundred copies of the Essay on Civil Government published by our Meeting for Sufferings; & of a memorial to the Legislature to Virginia, accompanied by a letter of Benjamin Bates, which has been previously printed – These were gladly received and appeared to be very acceptable –

The result was the passage of the Bill into a Law, reported by the military Committee, so that Friends in that State, are now by Law exempted from all military requisitions –

Which we submit to the Meeting –
On behalf of the Committee
Salem 9 mo. 8th 1851 – Stephen A. Chase"

Which being truly satisfactory as well as encouraging to Friends, was directed to be recorded –

The following communication from our last Yearly Meeting was at this time received – Viz –

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, in the sixth month, 1851 –

The printing & circulating of the Address to Friends, [prepared by the associated Committees of different Yearly Meetings at Baltimore] was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, to be attended to by that Meeting, when it shall have been laid before the different Yearly Meetings that were represented in the Conference — The Meeting is at Liberty to omit the paragraph which was prepared & adopted by the several Yearly Meetings in 1833 —

Believing that usefulness may result from the publication of the Memorials received at this time, the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to cause an edition of them to be printed and placed within the reach of Friends —

From the Minutes of the Meeting —
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our Friends William C. Taber, Stephen A. Chase, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, to cause an edition of 1500 copies of the Memorials to be printed, & disposed of to Friends at such a price as will defray the expense —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford 3d of 12 mo 1851 —
Present at this time, Sixteen members, viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Abraham Barker, David R. Akin, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, & Micajah C. Pratt —

The committee to cause to be printed an edition of the Memorials of deceased Friends, inform, that they have given attention to their appointment, & have prepared the Memorials for publication; the Committee are continued, & are requested to proceed in publishing the same; and they are desired to Report at our next Meeting —

This Meeting having been informed some time since, that there are in circulation pamphlets & publications, anonymous & otherwise, in which Strictures have been made upon our Yearly Meeting, & upon its Disciplinary proceedings, which we believe to be uncalled for, & erroneous, the subject has several times, claimed our serious deliberation — And apprehending at this time, that some action of this Meeting may be necessary in order for the clearing of truth, we appoint our Friends, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, John Osborne, Samuel Boyce, & John D. Lang, to give the subject their careful consideration & report their views thereon at our next meeting —

Adjourned to meet again this evening at 6 1/2 o clk at this place —

Fourth day evening the 3d, met, pursuant to adjournment —

A Memorial of Salem Monthly Meeting, Endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Sophronia Page, has at this time been read; and we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, Stephen A. Chase & Joseph Metcalf to consider of & revise the same and present it to a future Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence 2 mo 4th 1852 —

Present at this time 21 members viz — Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, & Micajah C. Pratt —

The Committee to cause an edition of 1500 copies of the Memorials of deceased Friends, to be printed, pursuant to the direction of this Meeting in the 8 mo. last, inform; that the service has been accomplished; & the Memorials have been forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings to be disposed of at three cts per copy, this sum being about the cost — And the proceeds thereof are to be forwarded to David Buffum Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting —

The Committee appointed several years since to have charge of defending Friends, in the Suit at Law, prosecuted against them by the Separatists, presented the following Report, viz —

"The Committee appointed several years since, and continued from time to time with additions to give attention to and assist & advise Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, in the defence of the Suit at Law brought by the Separatists from that Monthly Meeting against their Overseers for the possession of Friends' Meeting House, at Fall River, now Report —

That from time to time for nearly seven years, this trying subject has claimed and received their anxious attention — In its progress it has necessarily involved much labor, in explanation to the legal counsel employed by Friends, of our principles, & mode of Church Government, and the provisions and practical application of our Discipline, as these relate to the several meetings established for disciplinary purposes —

The collection and embodiment and printing of a large body of evidence from Friends within our own Yearly Meeting, and from one Friend in each of the other Yearly Meetings of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio, & Indiana, was a matter of importance and necessarily consumed much time — In addition to this, the Committee were called on to prepare suitable Cross Interrogatories, to be put to all the witnesses proposed to be examined by the Separatists in support of their claim, an engagement which consumed several weeks of close application —

We have the satisfaction of believing, that the body of evidence taken by Friends, and presented to the Court, coming as it did from all the Yearly Meetings on the American Continent, harmonized remarkably in all essential particulars, shewing that both the principles, & practical application of the System of church discipline established in the ordering of Truth among us, is understood and appreciated alike, throughout our Society — A fact confirmatory in our apprehension of its accordance with the order and government designed by the Holy Head to be exercised in his Church —

We have also the satisfaction of believing, that on the great essential principles of the discipline, the evidence collected, & presented by the Separatists, does not materially impugn the statements of the witnesses presented by Friends — Although in relation to matters of fact, we sorrowfully perceive a want of accuracy and careful statement on the part of some of these witnesses, which for their own sake, & for the cause sake, we very much deplore —

The evidence thus collected, with pleadings of the parties, was presented to the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, sitting in Chancery in the city of Boston, commencing on the 13th and continuing until the 20th inclusive of the last month, including the pleas of the counsel on both sides — The justices of the Court, now have the case under advisement, and their judgment may be expected, at the next Term of the Court in the County of Bristol, where the house and land in controversy are situated —

We believe it right at this stage of the Legal proceedings to state our conviction that, whatever may be the decision in point of Law — the Society of Friends in New England, has been by this trial, completely vindicated from the charges made by the separatists, of a departure from the doctrines, principles, or testimonies, ever held by Friends, from the days of George Fox — And shewn now and up to this time to hold them in all their fullness, & excellency —

We rejoice therefore, that so far the Truth has been exalted —

On behalf of the Committee —

Providence 2 mo. 4th 1852 } Stephen A. Chase"

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting, & the Committee are released — And we appoint our Friends Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, George Howland, Micajah C. Pratt, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and John Meader, to give such further attention to the case as may appear necessary, & Report to a future meeting — And they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for such sums as may be needed to defray the expense incurred in the defence of the Suit —

The following communication was at this time received from Pembroke Monthly Meeting viz —

"The Committee appointed in the 10 mo. last, to take into consideration the further appropriation of the income of a Legacy bequeathed to the "Preparative Meeting of Friends" in Pembroke, (by the will of our late friend Stephen

Rogers deceased,) have made a Report at this time, in which it is recommended for this Meeting to apply to the "Meeting for Sufferings", for their advice in the case, with which this meeting unites, and have appointed Samuel Brown & Edward P. Little a committee, to represent the case to the Meeting for Sufferings, and report their judgment & advice to some future meeting —

Taken from the minutes of Pembroke Monthly Meeting, held 12 mo. 25th 1851 —

By Moses F. Rogers Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our Friends, Thomas Harkness, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Edmund Chase, John Osborne, Samuel Boyd Tobey, & Stephen A. Chase to render such advice in the case as may appear necessary, & Report to a future meeting — And the clerk is directed to forward to Pembroke Monthly Meeting a copy of this minute —

A communication from the Committee having charge of our Boarding School, was received at this time as follows viz —

"At a Meeting of the School Committee held at the School House 2d mo. 3d 1852 —

This Institution having now been in constant operation (with the short vacations) since its first opening in the year 1819 — No sufficient time has been afforded, when the Schools have been vacated to make that thorough repair & renovation of the house, which the convenience, health, & comfort of the family require — And it appearing that some alterations in some of the rooms, and several other matters of great importance are now necessary to be done — after solid consideration, this Committee are united in the conclusion, that important advantages will be derived by vacating the School for the coming summer term, for the purpose of thorough repair and renovation of the School House and buildings —

We therefore now decide to lay this subject before the Meeting for Sufferings as the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting — for their advice in relation thereto — which the clerk is desired to do, by laying before that Meeting a Copy of this minute —

Extracted from the minutes of the School Committee

Stephen A. Chase Clerk"

And the proposition claiming our favorable consideration, this meeting approves of having the School vacated after the present term, for the purposes set forth by the Committee, until the time of our next Yearly Meeting, when, it is recommended that the Committee bring the subject before that Meeting in their annual Report; And the Clerk is directed to furnish the School Committee with a Copy of this minute —

The committee to render such advice and assistance, as might appear necessary to our Friends Eli & Sybil Jones, presented the following Report viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee to render our Friends Eli & Sybil Jones, such advice and assistance as might appear necessary, in order for the prosecution of their visit to some places in foreign Lands, Report —

That our beloved friends after sailing from Baltimore, were favored to reach Monrovia after a comfortable passage of 39 days — From thence they proceeded along the Coast of Liberia, holding Meetings on Shore, & attending to other religious services amongst the inhabitants as way opened for it, until through Divine favor, they were enabled to accomplish what appeared to be required at their hands in that Land —

There being no opportunity to take passage either to Sierra Leone, or to the West Indies, it appeared best for them to return to this country, in the packet they went out in, & they accordingly arrived in Baltimore, the latter part of the 12 mo — And have since returned to their home in Maine, with a view of embarking from Boston for Liverpool early in the Spring —

They have kept an interesting account of their visit and religious labors in Liberia, which is herewith presented —

After paying the expenses incurred thus far, they have returned to the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings \$526,31 cts — Which amount deducted from the sum furnished them, after paying their passages out, & outfits, leaves their expenses in Liberia, & back to this country, at \$273,69 cts —

The sum placed in the hands of the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, it is proposed should be kept, and applied, to the defraying of further expenses attendant upon the accomplishment of their religious engagement —

We herewith present an account of their expenditures —

Providence 2 mo. 3. 1852 —

On behalf of the Committee

Samuel Boyce"

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting —

And the memorandums kept by our dear friends, of their visit and religious labors, are referred to our friends Stephen A. Chase and Samuel Boyce, who are requested to examine them, & Report their views thereon at a future Meeting —

The Committee are requested to extend such further care, & assistance in their case as may appear necessary, and to hold the funds which they have returned, until they may need them in the further prosecution of their religious engagements —

The Committee to take into consideration the subject of pamphlets & publications, in circulation, reflecting improperly upon our Yearly Meeting presented the following Report — viz —

"The Committee to consider whether some action of the Meeting for Sufferings may not be necessary respecting pamphlets & publications in circulation in which it is believed unwarrantable charges have been made against our Yearly Meeting, Report — That they have given the subject their careful consideration, and have prepared an exposition of their views, in relation thereto, which they herewith present — The Committee are of opinion, that the good of our Society, and the Cause of truth, would be subserved; by having some such exposition published & circulated among Friends —

Providence 2mo. 4th. 1852 — John Meader
On behalf of the Committee"

Which is accepted; and the consideration of the exposition presented by the Committee, is refered to an adjournment of this Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at this place at 7 o clk. this evening —

Fourth day Evening Friends met, pursuant to adjournment —

The exposition presented by the Committee at the last Sitting of this Meeting is as follows. viz —

"It is now more than six years since a comparatively small portion of the former members of New England Yearly Meeting separated themselves from Friends, and set up Meetings, under the names of Yearly and other Disciplinary Meetings of our Society —

At the time, our Yearly Meeting, under the apprehension of the propriety, and necessity of such a measure, prepared, and issued in print, a narrative of facts and circumstances, which in their belief had tended to produce that Secession — At the same time, they also issued and published, a declaration of their faith in the ancient doctrines and principles of the Society —

The object the Yearly Meeting had in view in these publications was, that our members within our own borders, as well as Friends generally in other Yearly Meetings, might be in possession of correct information as to the true causes which had operated to produce a result so much to be regretted as a Secession from the government and meetings of Friends, under the profession of holding to the faith, and supporting the discipline of the society —

The narrative was not addressed to any Meeting of Friends; and it may well be concluded, that it was not in the contemplation of the Yearly Meeting, that its contents would come under the consideration of the other Yearly Meetings, so as to be made the occasion of an inquiry by other Yearly Meetings, into the propriety or regularity of the Disciplinary proceedings, of our Yearly Meeting, or its subordinate branches —

Our Yearly Meeting could have had, no view or expectation of this kind, as we believe no such measure had ever taken place, in our religious

Society since we have been a distinct people — Nor is such a course pointed out or authorized by any provision of discipline, so far as we know, in the Society in any part of the world —

That "each Yearly Meeting is the judge of its own discipline",* is a fundamental principle, we believe, universally acknowledged, and heretofore as universally adhered to — Indeed it seems to us that any departure from this principle must necessarily involve consequences totally subversive of the order and discipline of the Society —

If one Yearly Meeting may inquire into the propriety and regularity of the proceedings of Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, belonging to another Yearly Meeting, such meetings must of necessity be amenable to the Yearly Meeting thus making the inquiry; and must have the right of being heard by them, and making their defence; and such examining Yearly Meeting must possess the right to call upon them, as well as upon all interested, whether meetings or individuals, for explanation and defence, and should have the means of carrying out their decisions —

The inconsistency of this course with the order in which the discipline of the Society has ever been administered, must be apparent to all acquainted with the system of church government of our religious body —

Since the publication of the narrative, several pamphlets have been circulated amongst us, and probably among Friends in other Yearly Meetings and the public at large, in which the proceedings of this Yearly Meeting and several of its subordinate branches have been much misrepresented; and the character and religious standing of many Friends seriously attacked, — and the attempt made to represent our Yearly Meeting as having departed from the doctrines and practise of Friends, — and to have become an apostate body —

These publications purport, in most cases, to proceed from meetings of the Separatists, and to have received their sanction — Some others have been published anonymously —

It has been heretofore believed best by Friends, silently to bear the imputations contained in these publications, — emanating as they did, from those who had openly seceded; or from nameless sources —

It cannot be doubted that the blessed end and intent of a Gracious Providence, in raising up and separating us, as a distinct people, to show forth the praise of His name, and become a lively example of the fruits of His Spirit will ever be best promoted by a steady and upright walking before the Lord, and by a patient endurance of the dispensations in unerring wisdom permitted for the trial of the faith, of the members of His Church —

---

* Philadelphia Report. p. 29 —

It is a prophetic testimony that "it is good that a man should both hope, and quietly wait for the Salvation of the Lord". Meekness, and quietness of spirit are testified in the Scriptures, to be the adorning of the followers of the Lamb — In this Spirit we have desired to be preserved; and in this Spirit, we crave that all we do for the cause of truth may be done —

In the year 1849, a publication of a different character from those we have alluded to appeared among us, and has gained much circulation —

It is entitled "A Report of the Meeting for Sufferings, adopted by a Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in Philadelphia, in relation to the facts & causes of the division which occurred in New England Yearly Meeting in the year 1845" —

By a minute appended to this "Report," and published with it, it appears that it was received the official Sanction of the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia — a Yearly Meeting with which that of New England has been in unity since its establishment, now for near two hundred years — And by another minute published in the same pamphlet, the printing and circulation of it appear to be the work of those, who separated from New England Yearly Meeting in 1845 — It is not, therefore, simply as a production of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, that we reply to it, but as a publication, extensively circulated in print reflecting upon the disciplinary proceedings of our Yearly Meeting, that we believe ourselves called upon thus publicly to take notice of it* —

Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, cannot, as we think fail to see that under the circumstances, our vindication, to answer our intended purpose, must take as wide a circulation, as the Strictures, it is intended to counteract, and that a resort to that confidential intercourse which has for so long a time subsisted between that Yearly Meeting, and ours, is not now sufficient to meet the exigencies of the case —

---

* The "Report" has further been made use of on an important occasion, by being presented to the consideration of the Supreme Judicial Court of the ~~State~~ of Massachusetts —

Thomas B. Gould, to whom the "Report" officially authenticated, was sent by direction of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting as Clerk of one of the bodies claiming to be New-England Yearly Meeting, having given his deposition to be used in the proceedings before that court, arising out of a suit at law, brought by the Separatists against Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, has annexed a copy of the same to his deposition, and testified that he, "has carefully compared the copy so annexed, with the original document in his possession" and refers to it for a further and particular Statement of the causes which have led to and produced the division in New-England Yearly Meeting —

Thus the document in what the Separatists consider ~~call~~ an official form, has been laid before the highest Judicial tribunal of Massachusetts as evidence against Friends —

We can hardly believe that our dear Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, had any view of this paper ever being put in print or circulated in our borders — It seems to us that they could not have failed to see that the tendency of such a publication would be to give strength to that spirit of controversy & alienation, which has, for many years, unhappily existed with some of our former members; and of renewing in their minds those feelings so foreign to true love and unity which Friends have had so deeply to deplore —

The hope had been cherished that the restoring influence of the blessed love of the Gospel, the healing virtue of the grace of God, would ere now, have led them to look back towards that precious unity and fellowship, which, in times past, we had been so graciously favored with; and it cannot but be apparent to the candid and unprejudiced that the manner in which the circumstances which led to the separation are treated of in this publication, is calculated to widen, rather than to heal, the breach the enemy has been permitted to make within our borders —

In the narrative published by our Yearly Meeting in 1845, — and which is reviewed in the "Report" under consideration, — the apprehension and belief of Friends are expressed, that the cause of disunity and schism is to be found in the fostering, "under the profession of supporting sound doctrines," of a spirit of disaffection towards Friends, which led to the indulgence "in a spirit of detraction, tending to injure the religious character of divers Friends in our own, and other Yearly Meetings, — representing them as unsound in doctrine, and holding views inconsistent with those always held by the society of Friends" —

At the time our Yearly Meeting expressed this apprehension, there had nothing appeared in print, so far as we recollect, which gave proof of the great prevalence of this spirit; but since that time, the Separatists themselves have furnished ample proof, that the apprehensions of Friends, were well founded; and that the spirit of disaffection was more deep rooted, and settled, than they, at that time, supposed —

In proof of this, we may quote from a pamphlet entitled, "An Address from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends, to the members of that Religious Society within the limits of New England Yearly Meeting, and elsewhere:" — Signed by Thomas Wilbur and Martha S. Gould as Clerks, — published in 1845. A publication of the Separatists, as follows: (page 5.)

"With regard to the *cause* of this schism, *we* do not merely 'apprehend,' but we are sure it will be found to have originated in a departure from the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ — from an humble inward dependence upon the guidance of his good Spirit & Power, which would have preserved those who have taken the oversight of the flock, from lording it over the heritage — from seeking honour one of another — from bringing in strange doctrines themselves, or "bidding those God-Speed" who did so."

We farther quote from page 12: —

"It is well known to many Friends who live in remote parts of New-England Yearly Meeting, that a few prominent individuals in Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, have for many years very much controlled its proceedings; to the dissatisfaction of those Friends, which dissatisfaction has been by them repeatedly expressed. As a necessary consequence of a departure in principle, the love of power has increased, and being in a manner self-constituted, and self-perpetuated, its growth has been rapid, & alarming, and has aided in no small degree, in bringing about these sad results, long foreseen by many deeply exercised and concerned Friends, and now but too painfully, and sorrowfully apparent to all.

"It has also been evident that some in the possession of great wealth, have been on that account, far too influential in the Church, being looked up to, and promoted to important stations therein, with too little regard to religious weight of character, which it is to be feared has been much wanting in some cases."

From the same pamphlet, (page 13) we quote farther: —

"Many of the prominent individuals before alluded to, did earnestly defend and support that great apostate Elisha Bates, at the time of his last attendance of this Yearly Meeting, in 1835, notwithstanding he therein, repeatedly manifested his dereliction from some of our peculiar principles and testimonies. Such, his departure was testified against by some of us, in a manner similar to that which we afterward manifested, when his successor J. J. Gurney, appeared, and to the incurring of the like censure and reproaches, from which E. Bates' subsequent precipitancy only relieved us. So that it is indisputable, those prominent individuals were in some degree at least *prepared* to receive J. J. Gurney, and to support and defend him, inasmuch as this was not their *first* committal to those who held and promulgated unsound doctrines."

And further, on page 14, speaking of the Circular of the Meeting for Sufferings, referring to the care of Friends, to hold up to view those gospel truths, in which they believe, and to caution Friends against giving countenance to the receiving or spreading of unsound doctrines, the pamphlet says: —

"To those who have been acquainted with the course, which these men have pursued for the last six or eight years, their own conduct must form the most striking comment upon these 'solemn' declarations, exhortations, & advices."

And further on page 15, speaking of the Meeting for Sufferings and Yearly Meetings' Committee, the pamphlet says: —

"For these are the men — these prominent and influential men, who have combined together against the Lord and his anointed messengers — even to the effecting of the *disownment*, in some instances of faithful standard-bearers, and unslumbering watchmen, "who could not hold their peace", and that too in a way and manner contrary to, and subversive of that excellent system of church discipline which was originally established by the power & in the wisdom of truth, not for the protection of 'evil men & seducers', that *they* might go on with impunity 'deceiving & being deceived'; but to be so faithfully administered upon them as either to reclaim, or cut them off from membership in that body which is composed of living members, so long as it holds the indispensable connexion with Christ, the Head over *all things* to his own church and people."

"But we can readily understand and appreciate the object of all these high professions; the more reiterated of latter time as their fears increase, yet so contradicted by their conduct; for it has been behind this screen, and under this blind, that their unsanctified work has been performed; well knowing how 'vain it is to lay the snare in the sight of any bird'."

And again we quote from page 24 of the same pamphlet: —

The writers of these documents — the Members of the Meeting for Sufferings, also know that we have patiently *submitted to their arbitrary 'control'*, for several years past, involving *many* & 'various steps' which they 'have taken', 'under the specious pretence' 'of supporting right order in the Church', but which were palpably 'at variance with our Christian discipline', subversive of *the order prescribed therein*, for the government of meetings, and the preservation of their rights, as well as of the rights of individuals; and incompatible with the precepts of Christ, the alone Head'." &c.

Refering to a book published *by* John Wilbur, entitled, a, "Narrative and Exposition" &c. the pamphlet asserts, page 28, that,

That book "will clearly show that this division in society *has arisen* 'from a defection' on the part of the Meeting for Sufferings, the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and some others, 'on points of doctrine' of primary and distinguishing importance, — that *doctrines* have, 'been at issue in the case' 'from the beginning even until now — that there *has been* a change, and a *very serious and lamentable change too,* in the views of those, who say they 'know of no change', in regard to the ancient *doctrines*, *discipline*, *and practise* of our religious society.

"Greater evidence need not be called for to prove the insincerity of the 'professions of the Meeting for Sufferings, in now coming forward publickly, and avowing the primitive doctrines of Friends, than the course of proceedings, which they have followed"

In the same year, 1845, was published another pamphlet, emanating from the Separatists, and under the sanction of their Yearly Meeting, entitled "An Epistolary Declaration and Testimony, of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held on Rhode-Island in the 6mo. 1845. — and signed by Thomas B. Gould, & Martha S. Gould, Clerks". —

In this pamphlet are contained extracts from the minutes of said Yearly Meeting of Separatists — and therefore to be considered as the conclusions, and assertions of them as a body, — in which they say, p. 6. that,

Having assembled under circumstances very peculiar and painful, it has appeared to us important, briefly to set forth, and to place upon our Records, some of those causes which produced a division in Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, and its subordinate branches, during the past year, and which resulted in a fearful *Schism* in the early part of this Yearly Meeting, &c" — And proceeding to detail these causes, they say that, "For several years past many of the most prominent & influential members of this Yearly Meeting who had formerly appeared to be in good measure established in the Truth, but who, for want of an humble abidance therein, which would have preserved them out of all error, have fallen from that state and standing which they once knew, and have manifested a sorrowful disposition, to lower the standard of our Christian profession, by introducing and conniving at the introduction of doctrines, principles, and practises at variance with, and subversive of, those which have ever distinguished us as a people, as set forth in the standard writings of our early Friends, particularly in Robert Barclay's 'Apology for the true Christian Divinity,' which has been *fully* approved and adopted, not only by this Meeting, but by the society at large."

In order more *easily* to effect a change in our well known 'principles, corresponding with that which had taken place in themselves, they have not hesitated to *lay* waste the good order and discipline of the Church — making use of the station and influence which they had improperly retained in the Society, and of a profession of great concern for the maintainance of *its order* to conceal their secret defection in principle, and to gloss over their proceedings, which were designed to 'hunt and destroy' those who could not be induced to unite with them in removing the 'ancient landmarks' of our Christian profession, or to refrain from bearing testimony to the truth as always held and supported by Friends, and as enjoined by our Discipline".

"Seeming to depend very much upon their numerical strength, many & various have been the artifices to which they have resorted, to increase and perpetuate their own power & numbers — They have been unwearied in raising and spreading unfounded prejudices and evil reports, against those Friends (both at home and abroad) who firmly opposed these innovations, some of whom in this way, they succeeded in laying under dealing & disowning."

Allusion is made in one of the above Extracts to a book, published by John Wilbur, under the name of a "Narrative and Exposition."

This book of John Wilbur appears also to have been endorsed by the Meeting of the Separatists, calling themselves the Meeting for Sufferings, as appears by their minute under date of 6th of 8 mo. 1845, appended to a publication of theirs, called 'Strictures, &c.,' in which they say that, "the merits of the controversy have been clearly set forth in this book." To show that this individual fully sympathized and united with the spirit manifested in the above extracts, — we quote from his Narrative and Exposition, as follows, p. 33: —

"The above named J. J. Gurney, on a visit to America, came to New-England in the 6mo. 1838 and found the ground already prepared in many minds to receive and defend him, notwithstanding the defection of his doctrines."

"These persons whose minds had been thus prepared, had evidently been *for some years* seeking for the control and dominion over New-England Yearly Meeting, and over all its concerns, in which they had been successful. And being men of influence, and disposed to avail themselves of all means within their reach, (which were not in any wise very limited;) whereby to clothe themselves with rule & with power — have drawn many *to* them, or *after* them by their proffered friendship — by promotion in appointments — by the honor of man, and by temporal favors, bestowed in *many* ways. By these means they have encompassed (however unsuspected their object by many) a great proportion of those who were active members, as well as others, and have promoted and made active, many who were not so before. And those who have not fallen into these new views, have not been desirous of office or control in the church, and consequently have not put themselves, or one another forward much for appointments."

From the foregoing extracts, we think it will fully appear, that a spirit of disaffection and alienation of mind from the body of Friends, a jealous disposition towards them, and a great lack of that love and unity, which, in accordance with the precepts of the gospel of Christ, our discipline enjoins, — had existed with those who separated from us for many years. That, through the subtle working of the adversary of our peace, a sad breach had been made, in the harmony and love which are the essential badge of true discipleship.

Under such a state of things, it was perfectly clear, that all who desired the peace and prosperity of the society — all to whom the precious cause of truth was dear, were bound to labor for the removal of such spots and blemishes upon our christian profession.

By the discipline of our Yearly Meeting, as well as by the constitution of that body, and its place and office in the Church, it therefore became imperative to pursue this labor. The very design of the Yearly Meeting required it.

In the description of that order established in the truth of Meetings for discipline, the purposes of the Yearly Meeting are thus set forth in the book of Discipline: — "Yearly (Meeting) consisting of all the Quarterly Meetings in New England, to meet annually in the sixth month, on Rhode-Island; for a great and weighty oversight and Christian care of the affairs of the Churches, pertaining to our holy profession and Christian Communion; that good order, true love, unity and concord, may be faithfully followed and maintained among all of us as a peculiar people, called and chosen out of the world, and the errors and corruptions thereof."

Our Yearly Meeting entered into this arduous labor, — they issued advices, persuading and enjoining Friends to live in love, to preserve harmony, to give no place to discord and contention, — to labor for the "unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." And from time to time they deputed Committees of concerned Friends, to labor for the same blessed end.

But we have sorrowfully to testify, that these labors of love were not received by some, in the Spirit in which they were tendered. For want of an humble abidance in the truth, many were disposed to reject the tender counsels of the body, thus extended to them; and the consequences which followed, in many cases, were such as are described by Robert Barclay in his treatise on Church Government, Vol. 1. Barclay's Works, p.p. 467, 468:

"Now the ground of all schisms, divisions or rents in the body is, when as any member assumes another place than is allotted it; or being gone from the life and unity of the body, and losing the sense of it, sits in the number, the eye that watches for evil, and not in holy care over its fellow-members, and then, instead of coming down to judgment in itself, will stand up and judge its fellow-members, yea, the whole body or those whom God has set in a more honorable and eminent place in the body than itself.

Such suffer not the word of exhortation; and term the reproofs of instruction, (which is the way of life,) imposition and oppression, — and are not aware how far they are in the things they condemn others for; while they spare not to reprove and revile all their fellow members; — yet if they be but admonished themselves, they cry out as if their great charter of gospel liberty were broken."

Such was sorrowfully the spirit in which the care, concern and labors of the Yearly Meeting were met.

By the pamphlet, entitled "A Report," &c, to which we have alluded as having received the sanction of our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; some of the labors of Friends under the concern for the remedying of the evils we have alluded to, are animadverted upon.

It is, we trust, in the love of the everlasting Gospel, and with a single eye to the clearing of the truth from all misconstruction, that we believe ourselves called upon briefly to review some of the positions which are taken in the "Report" respecting the disciplinary proceedings of this Yearly Meeting.

Before doing so, however, we desire to express our great satisfaction, — nay, we may say, we rejoice to find that the many and confident assertions of the Separatists, that Friends of this Yearly Meeting are wanting in a full adherence to those precious doctrines of the Gospel which have ever distinguished the Society of Friends — those most blessed truths which our predecessors were led, by the immediate putting forth of the Holy Spirit, to embrace, and advocate, and through great suffering, and the persecutions of a perverse generation, to maintain, have found no place with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. And that the solemn declaration of faith, issued by our Yearly Meeting in 1845, has not been called in question by that Yearly Meeting —

It seems to us, that if, as we gladly believe, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and ourselves are united in one faith, and in one hope in the Gospel, — that if no cause of offence on the one side or the other, can arise from any diversity of opinion upon religious truths, we may indulge a strong confidence that, upon no minor points, can any feeling of separation long remain, between us —

Can it be that brethren of the same faith, members of one household, acknowledging the same standards of doctrine and led thereby into the support of the same testimonies, can be separated by any feeling of distrust or difference in administration? —

It is with these feelings and views, that we proceed to consider the "Report" which they have sanctioned —

We have no desire, in doing so, to attempt a justification of any proceedings animadverted upon, farther than the truth requires at our hands; but we believe it right to bring to view the tried and Straightened condition in which this Yearly Meeting was placed, when the proceedings in question commenced –

All who have thus far perused this paper, will, we think, be ready to acknowledge, that Friends of our Yearly Meeting had abundant Cause of concern and anxiety from the want of unity evidenced by the charges, which had been, for so long a time, and so freely circulated amongst us; for although previous to the separation, these charges had been made mostly in oral communication or private correspondence, yet, from the feelings of the disaffected members, as they have now been freely exposed and published, it is easy to see what must have been the State of things amongst us. "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth Speaketh"; and when feelings such as are evinced in the extracts from the publications of the Separatists which we have given, have taken root, and are cherished, what other fruits could be looked for, than such as have been brought forth? — alienation of brother from brother, and friend from friend, until open separation took place –

The Report under review purports to consist, — first, of a "Narrative, embracing the facts in which (as they say) both substantially agree"; second of a "Statement of the views taken by the respective parties of those facts and circumstances"; and, third, of the "Conclusions which we (the authors of the Report) have been led to, in the course of the examination, — as to the principles which appear to us involved in these transactions."

With respect to the narrative part of the "Report", we do not feel called upon, or think it necessary to enter into any critical examination of it, at the present time — We, may safely say, and we feel much satisfaction in saying, that we do not perceive that any fact which our Yearly Meeting embodied in their narrative, is controverted or denied, although many facts contained therein, which we consider quite material to the right understanding of the case, are omitted to be noticed in this part of the Report –

These facts we are bound to believe, were not so considered by our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; and the responsibility of the omission being with them and not with us, we are willing there to leave it –

The same remarks may, we think, apply to the second part of the Report, — Viz., the "Statement of the views taken by the respective parties of those facts and circumstances" – The principal object Friends of our Yearly Meeting had in view in the compilation of their "Narrative", was faithfully to record the workings of a Spirit of disaffection and disunity, from its appearance among us, till its final consummation in an open separation from our religious body; that Friends in other Yearly Meetings, as well as within our limits, might be ascertained of those facts, and be guarded, so far as the Yearly Meeting was enabled to do it, from a misrepresentation of them.

The views taken of those facts, were such as the Yearly Meeting believed they clearly warranted; and were presented with the sole view of endeavoring to support our Christian order and discipline to the honor of Truth. The Statement of these views by our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are, in many respects, short of their originals: but, as in the former case, we are disposed to believe, and desire to believe, that the views omitted to be stated — many of which we consider important — were not so considered by them.

It would we fear extend our present review to a greater length than would be best, to restate either the narrative of facts, or statement of views contained in the former publications of our Yearly Meeting.

It is sufficient for our present purpose, to refer to the several papers issued by our Yearly Meeting, and the Meeting for Sufferings, in the year 1845, — wherein, the facts and circumstances relating to the separation, with the views of Friends thereon, are fully stated.

With respect to the third division of the "Report," — viz. the conclusions come to by the Meeting for Sufferings, and sanctioned by the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, we think it right, under feelings, we trust, of true Christian love, and an earnest desire that the truth, and that alone, should prevail, — to offer, more at large, a statement of our views and conclusions.

Our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting maintain the principle, "that each Yearly Meeting is the judge of its own discipline." *

To this position we cordially assent. It is undoubtedly true and correct; — and in our judgment, any interference by another Yearly Meeting, or attempt to control its actions in these respects, would be an infraction of our established order, and fraught with consequenses perilous to the whole brotherhood of Yearly Meetings.

But, says the "Report" "there is an understood and implied necessity of conforming in its (the Yearly Meeting's) decisions to principles of religious duty, and Christian doctrine, of civil liberty, and constitutional right common to us all, and always acknowledged and held as inviolable by us."

So far as our Friends here allude to the maintainance of the doctrines of truth as professed by the Society, and of religious duty growing out of their faithful maintainance, we also cordially agree, — nay, farther, — we believe that there is not only "an understood & implied necessity,"

* "Report". p. 29.

but a solemn obligation, arising out of the essential nature of our religious profession and compact to uphold both the doctrines and the testimonies growing out of, and depending upon them, faithfully, and without wavering.—

Our worthy predecessors, the early members of our Christian body, were led in the ever blessed truth, and under the enlightening, and strengthening influence of the Holy Spirit, to uphold, and maintain, the primitive doctrines of Divine Revelation, with a force, clearness, and power which commends itself to every truly humbled and seeking mind,— and their successors in the same fellowship will ever be found holding and maintaining the same blessed doctrines and testimonies.

We hold also, that there is the same solemn obligation, to maintain, in its original purity, and on its original principles, the system of Church Government, which by the instrumentality of the same faithful servants in the early times of the Society, was established and settled.—

But how far the decisions of the Yearly Meeting upon the discipline of the Church may or should conform to the principles of "civil liberty and constitutional right common to us all," we think very questionable.—

By the principles of civil liberty and constitutional right, at least, in our own country, all men may worship God, in the manner and form they may judge their own consciences dictate. But a member of our Religious Society, by becoming such, relinquishes this right, and agrees to our mode of worship; and if in the exercise of his civil liberty and constitutional right, he should adopt any other mode of worship, he would become amenable to the discipline;— and surely it would be no valid plea against the exercise of the discipline, that, by the principles of civil liberty and constitutional right he might choose his own form of worship.—

Again,— by the principles of "civil liberty and constitutional right," a man may defend his life, or his possessions, by force of arms;— yet if a member of our Body were to exercise this liberty, the judgment of the Church must needs be exercised upon him; and it would be no good plea for such a one to make, that such judgment was against the principles of "civil liberty and constitutional right."—

We trust that Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting would agree with us, that the members of our Religious Society are bound by the very terms of their membership to conform to the principles of our Religious Compact, & to forbear the exercise of all those things, which by the principles of "civil liberty and constitutional right" they may do, which are incompatible with the Truth, as held by us as a people;— and, that the discipline may be rightfully exercised against all practises inconsistent with the Truth, whether sanctioned by the principles of "civil liberty or constitutional right, yea, or nay, and that the decisions of the Yearly Meeting should conform to the terms of the compact which lie at the foundation of the union of our religious Society.

The sentiment of the "Report" that "we are one people, the world over," is undoubtedly true, — and it is a strengthening and confirming truth, that the influences and teachings of the Holy Spirit should be experienced, to be the same to our fellow professors, the world over, — leading them to see "eye to eye", and cementing them together in the bonds of the Gospel, however widely separated.

But we do not think it follows from this truth, as the "Report" maintains, that when "two Bodies come before a Yearly Meeting, both under the same title, and each claiming to be the co-ordinate branch of the Society bearing that name," — that it is incumbent for such Yearly Meeting to inquire into the disciplinary proceedings of a co-ordinate Yearly Meeting long established, and always acknowledged.

It seems to us, that if such should be admitted as an established principle of duty, by Yearly Meetings, the final right of appeal, instead of being limited, as heretofore, to the Yearly Meeting of which any appellant might have been, before disownment, a member, would be practically extended to all the other Yearly Meetings, or to any of them which such appellant might choose to select. For he has only, in order to enforce such right, to join with any number of other persons, however small, — for numbers do not vary the principle, — and assuming the name of a Yearly Meeting, to go into any other Yearly Meeting, and demand that they should inquire into the disciplinary proceedings against him, and determine whether the same were right or wrong, — and they would on the ground assumed in the "Report," as it seems to us, be bound so to do, "so that it may not withhold from those to whom they belong, the precious rights and privileges which membership in our Society confers."

To this principle thus stated, we do not believe our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting would adhere, — and yet, we find it difficult, on any other principle, to see what occasion there was for the inquiry into the disciplinary proceedings contained in the "Report" under review.

This inquiry appears to have led to the conclusion by our Friends, that important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, have been disregarded in the progress of the transactions of New-England Yearly Meeting. "Some of the more prominent points in which this has been done" (the Report says) "appear to us to be the following:"

The authors of the "Report" then proceed to specify eight particulars, in which they consider important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, have been disregarded by our Yearly Meeting.

And, "First, In the attempt to procure the disownment of a minister in the Society upon an accusation of detraction and upon other charges, based upon or growing out of his endeavors, in accordance with what he believed to be his religious duty, to prevent the reception and spread of sentiments contained in printed doctrinal works, written and published by a Friend from England then in this country; which sentiments, in common with many other Friends, he believed to be opposed to the acknowledged doctrines of the Society."

Now, it appears perfectly clear to us, that whether a minister, or any other Friend is, or not, guilty of detraction, depends upon whether he makes statements, and spreads reports respecting his fellow members, or others, designed or calculated to destroy, or lower their characters, or to misrepresent their motives; and that entirely irrespective of the question whether such statements or reports are, or are not, made under a profession of religious duty to prevent the spread of unsound sentiments.

No man has the religious right, under the discipline of our Society, to traduce the character of others, especially of his fellow members, whatever his natural rights may be; No man can, with impunity, in any well-ordered body connected with us as a religious society, make and spread the statements that "the most prominent and influential members of this (his own) Yearly Meeting, who had formerly appeared to be in good measure established in the truth, but who, for want of an humble abidance therein, which would have preserved them out of all error, have fallen from that state and standing which they once knew, and have manifested a sorrowful disposition to lower the standard of our Christian profession;" — or this statement, "That these prominent and influential members have been guilty of 'making use of the station and influence' which they had improperly retained in the Society, and of a profession of great concern for the maintenance of its order to conceal their secret defection in principle, and to gloss over their proceedings, which were designed to 'hurt & destroy' those who could not be induced to unite with them in removing the 'ancient landmarks' of our Christian profession;" — or this statement, — "Many and various have been the artifices to which they have resorted to increase and perpetuate their own power and numbers."

These statements have, to be sure, been put in print since the secession, — but they are in substance the same as were freely circulated by the minister alluded to and his adherents previous to that time.

They evince the spirit by which he and they were actuated, and had been actuated "for several years". They proceed from the same root which led the minister himself to speak freely to a ministering Friend and his companion — strangers in the Yearly Meeting — of the unsoundness of a minister from England; and to state, "that he was and would be supported by your (his own) Yearly Meeting, on account of a like unsoundness of many of its members". And to speak to the same ministering Friend, and his companion of a "controlling influence in New England Yearly Meeting that was not a religious but a moneyed one," — that, "if they were not on their guard, they would buy them;" — that, "they had already got — and — from England:" — that other Friends, in good standing, "were once such low, humble-minded Friends, — but they were bought over to the same influence".

We say, that in no well-ordered body of our Religious Society, can any man put forth such statements as these, without becoming amenable to the discipline. Nor can any member who shall indulge in the spirit manifested in such statements remain in unity, or a consistent member.

The Holy Scriptures abound with cautions against the indulgence of a spirit such as is here manifested; and the discipline of our Yearly Meeting is very clear and emphatic in the condemnation thereof, as the following extracts will show: —

"Advised to watch against all tale-bearing and defaming Friends or others, or evil-speaking tending thereunto; and shut out all occasions of offences, contentions and divisions, and to put a speedy stop thereto, passing righteous judgment upon all, who appear instruments of divisions, and offences, contrary to that peaceable truth, and Gospel we profess to be guided by.

Be kind and tenderhearted one to another, earnestly laboring for universal love, union, and peace in our Religious Society.

"But, when any hath received offence from another, let him first speak privately to the party offending, and endeavor reconciliation between themselves, and not to whisper or aggravate matters against one another, behind their backs, to the making of parties, and the breaches wider." — (1692.)

"Let those just and ancient commands of God be observed — Levit. xix. 16, — 'Thou shalt not go up and down as a tale-bearer among thy people:' And Exodus xxiii. 1, — 'Thou shalt not raise a false report.' In the fear of the Lord, stand against all whisperers, backbiters, tale-bearers, defamers, and slanderers, and against all whisperings, backbitings, tale-bearing, reproaching, and slandering, and put a speedy stop thereto, as much as in you lies, for such works of darkness and may tend to division and discord, and the righteous law of God goes against both the authors, fomenters, receivers, and encouragers thereof." — (1695)

"Be careful to avoid all backbitings, whisperings, and tale-bearings; for 'the words of a tale-bearer' says the wise man, 'are as wounds', Prov. XVIII, 8, tending to the defamation and lessening the Characters one of another.

"Be not, therefore, like those of whom the prophet complains, 'Report say they' and we will report'; but when you hear a thing tending to the defamation of any, inquire of the reporter, whether he has acquainted the person affected thereby with such report; if not, caution him, to forbear spreading the same, lest the reputation of the innocent be injured thereby. Endeavor to put a speedy stop to all such wicked practises, and works of darkness, justly condemnable, not only in the authors, but in the encouragers thereof. 'He that worketh deceit' says the Royal Psalmist, 'shall not dwell in my house'; he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.' Psalm CI, 5, 7." — (1738. — Discipline of N. E. Yearly Meeting, p.p. 33, 34). —

"We tenderly and with earnestness advise all Friends, who travel in the work of the ministry, as well as others, that they not only shut their ears against all private information of persons and things, tending to the defamation of particular persons or families, and to stir up disputes and contentions in meetings for discipline; but also to reprove, and rebuke the person or persons, who shall attempt to prejudice their minds with any private information of that nature." — (1752 — Discipline of New-England Yearly Meeting, p. 83.)

With the cautions and injunctions contained in those extracts, as well as with the obligation lying upon every Yearly Meeting of Friends to put them in practise, Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will without doubt fully agree. They are among the most important which the Society can be called upon to enforce, and absolutely essential to the preservation of the body as a Christian Church, — having the badge of true discipleship, — love one unto another.

We are not disposed, at all, to question the position of the Report, that, "unsound doctrines are to be testified against, and the flock warned of their pernicious influence." We believe with our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, that this is a Christian duty. It is, like all other Christian duties, to be performed in a Christian Spirit, and under the immediate puttings forth of the Spirit of Christ, and in the unity of the body which is the fruit of that Spirit. And when so done, there will be no ground for complaining of such labors. "If a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, unless he strive lawfully." 2 Tim. II, 5.

It is among the subtle snares and devices of the enemy to the peace and prosperity of the Church, and its individual members, to seek to beguile the unwary into the belief, that it is in the Lord's service and of his requiring, to oppose themselves to the order of, the truth, and the labor and travel of the body, and thus to introduce disunity and disaffection; and it matters little under what profession this may be done, so that the evil effects are produced.

But it is, and ever has been, the concern of the faithful laborers in the vineyard of the Lord, to "seek to follow those things that make for peace." Our worthy Elder, William Penn, in his day, sought earnestly to promote this end. The following extract from a tract of his writing, entitled, "Just Measures," is pertinent to our present purpose:—

> "O Friends, says he, "let us labor against secret animosities, watchings for evil, detraction, the sin that flung the angels out of their heavenly station; let us see to our own spirits, how they are, if *meek*, *lowly*, *humble*, *tender*, by which the true and preserving judgment is only known, & felt; or, if not *high*, *fierce*, *hard*, and *prejudiced*; for a man may come to lose a good frame of spirit upon very trifles. It is not always what the *matter* is the dispute arises upon, but *how* far the thing is es*poused*, and what place a man suffers it to have in his mind: If jealousy, reputation, revenge, or contradiction, prevail, division must follow; some are apt to resent things too soon, and carry it too far, even to obstinacy, through the workings of the evil one in a mystery; so that though the pretence of the quarrel may be some fact, or other, yet *that* has the least share oftentimes in the difference, it being inflamed and increased by the mysterious workings of the spirit of strife and variance in the mind."— Penn's folio works, p. 659.

It was, from first to last, the care of Friends, in their labors with the minister alluded to, to state explicitly that they did not treat with him on account of doctrines; that doctrines were not at issue in the case, but that they treated with him for his want of unity with Friends, and his course in relation to Friends calculated to create and foster disaffection, and disunity, and his statements respecting Friends calculated to lower their religious character and standing. And if, happily, by these labors of love he could have been prevailed upon to conform to their advice, the desolating effects which have followed would probably have been avoided.

This was the earnest desire of Friends; and we believe, was what was clearly his duty according to our acknowledged principles.

That deeply tried and exercised worthy in the early period of our Society, Isaac Penington, clearly states his belief in the duty of submission. From a work written by him, entitled "Queries Concerning Order &

Government in the Christ," we extract the following. (Penington's works, part 1, p. 435)

"Now it is also in my heart (for the perfecting of this close) to mention a few things (in the same love and tenderness) which I have found helpful to me towards the preserving of me in unity with the body. Perhaps it may please the Lord to refresh some others, by the mention of them, & to make them useful and helpful to them also.

1. The first, "is the pure fear of the Lord. This poiseth and guardeth the mind, keeping down fleshly confidence and conceitedness (which is very apt to spring up) making it wary and considerate either of what it receives or rejects, of what it practiseth or forbeareth practising, causing it to wait much, try much and consult much with the Lord, and with his ministers and people, and preserves out of that suddenness and inconsiderateness of spirit, at which the enemy often enters. For truth is weighty, and will bear trial; and the more it is tried in the balance, the more manifest its nature and ways appear: but the enemies appearances and likenesses are not so, but their deceit by a thorough trial comes to be made manifest.

2. "The second is, Humility of Heart. This is very precious & of a preserving nature. Yea in this state the Lord helpeth, and teacheth, and the soul also, (in this state) is fit to receive the help and teachings of the Lord. That which is lifted up and conceited (ready to justify its own way, and condemn even the whole body) is neither fit to be taught by the Lord, nor doth the Lord delight (but rather disdain) to teach it. And so not being taught by Him, it must needs be liable to err, yea to hearken to that Spirit, whose voice is more pleasing and suitable to the erring mind than the Lord's voice is.

3. "A third great help, which in the tender mercy of the Lord I have had experience of, is, Sobriety of Judgment, Not to value or set up mine own judgment, or that which I account the judgment of life in me, above the judgment of others, or that which is indeed life in others. For the Lord hath appeared to others, as well as to me: yea, there are others, who are in the growth of His Truth, and in the purity and dominion of His Life far beyond me. Now for me to set up, or hold forth the sense or judgment of a thing in opposition to them; this is out of the sobriety which is of the truth. Therefore in such cases I am to retire, and fear before the Lord, and wait upon Him for a clear discerning and sense of His Truth, in the unity and demonstration of His Spirit with others, who are of Him and see in Him. And this will prevent the rents, which the want of this sobriety may occasion.

4. "The last thing which I have to mention, is tenderness, meekness, coolness, and stillness of spirit. I wrap up these together, because they are much of a nature and go much together. These are of an uniting preserving nature. He that differs and divides from the body, cannot be thus; and he that is thus, cannot rend or divide.

Thus is the pure heavenly wisdom, which is peaceable and keepeth the peace. But the other wisdom is rough, stiff, hard, clamorous, ready to take offence, ready to give offence; exceeding deep in the justification of itself, exceeding deep in the condemnation of others, and dares (in this temper) appeal to the Lord, as if it were right in its ways, but wronged by others; as if it did abide in the measure of His Truth and Life, which others are departed from."

"And how can it be otherwise? How can the wrong eye, the wrong spirit, the wrong wisdom, but judge wrong; — justifying the wrong practises, and condemning the right? But such shall find (if they come to the true touchstone even the measure of life indeed) that they are not in the true tenderness, which proceeds from the life, in the true meekness and gentleness, in the true coolness and stillness; but rather in the reasonings, noises, clamors, and disturbances, which arise from another Spirit, mind and nature, than that which is of the Truth.

"And in coming back from this wisdom to the pure wisdom, from the pretended measure of life to the true measure, and becoming tender, meek, cool, and still in it, they shall there feel their error from the Spirit and power of the Lord, and thence own their condemnation therefor from Him, and also justify them who have abode in the power, and been guided by the Spirit and pure measure of life, which is from God, and in God, while they have departed from it. For though the Spirit of error, (wherewith they have been deceived and entangled) hath made them believe, that they have faithfully abode in the principle and doctrine of truth, while others have departed; yet that will soon vanish, as Truth comes again to be felt and heard speak in them, and the measure of life to rise again in them, and to redeem them afresh into its holy nature and pure living sense."

If these excellent sentiments had been the ruling motives of the Friend alluded to it may safely be said that no occasion of an accusation of violation of the discipline would ever have been given by him or sustained against him.

The second particular in which the "Report" maintains, that important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, have been disregarded by New England Yearly Meeting, is specified as follows: —

"Second. In a Committee of the Yearly Meeting summoning a member before it to answer certain charges made by it, dealing with him as an offender, and requiring him to make concessions to them, and endeavoring to induce him to sign a written acknowledgment, drawn up by a part of their own body."

The committee of the Yearly Meeting to which allusion is here made, was appointed in the year 1840, for the purposes specified in the following minute of their appointment, viz:—

"The following Friends, being named for that service, were appointed to extend a general care on its behalf, for the maintainance of our christian principles and testimonies, and the preservation of love and unity amongst our members; and in that ability which may be afforded them, to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require, and way open for, under the direction of Best Wisdom; and they were requested to report to this meeting, next year."—

That the appointment of this Committee was strictly in accordance with the usage of New England Yearly Meeting is certain. Similar committees have been appointed by this Yearly Meeting, from time to time, since 1759, to the time of the Separation. In 1759, a Committee was appointed "to review and judge of a case between contending parties." In 1777, a Committee was appointed by the Yearly Meeting "to visit and advise a Monthly Meeting, and such members thereof as they may find necessary." And, in the following year, a Committee was appointed, "to visit a Quarterly and Monthly Meeting, and such members as may appear to them to have been drawn aside from the union and fellowship of the body on account of (an) unhappy matter; and also to visit (an offender) and endeavor in the Spirit of love, to restore him to his brethren, and do what in wisdom they may be enabled, to the end that the cause and testimony of truth be maintained and supported.

"And the said Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, as well as particular members, are desired to attend to this meeting's care herein, and the advice which the said Committee may in wisdom and love to the cause of Truth give on this occasion."

In 1782 a Committee was appointed "to visit each Quarterly and Monthly Meeting, and as many preparative Meetings as may fall in their way, or may appear best; and also, such families or individuals as occasion may require, to labor in that ability which truth may afford, for the revival of the Spirit of discipline in the minds of our brethren and sisters, and to afford them every assistance, (that) they may be enabled to put the same in practise in the various branches of our Christian testimony, and endeavor for the removal of the many deficiencies mentioned in the answers to the queries; and generally, to promote love and unity throughout the Society."

In 1783 this committee was continued for similar services.

In 1805 a Committee was appointed "to visit a Quarterly Meeting, and such other branches of that Meeting, and individuals, as they may think best, — and labor in the ability Truth may afford, to remove the difficulties that have obstructed the regular order of society, & make report to our next Yearly Meeting"—

In 1820 a Committee was appointed "to visit a Quarterly Meeting, & such of its Monthly and particular Meetings, and individuals, as way may open for, — therein, to afford such advice and assistance as they may consider best adapted to the objects of their appointment, — and report to their next Yearly Meeting"—

In more recent times, the practise indicated in the above extracts has been continued — It is clearly, therefore, in strict conformity to usage, both ancient and modern, for the Yearly Meeting to make appointments of Committees, to advise and labor with both subordinate Meetings, and individuals — And it is as clearly in accordance with the principles of discipline which set forth the purposes of the Yearly Meeting "for a great and weighty oversight and Christian care of the affairs of the Churches pertaining to our holy profession and Christian communion; that good order, true love, unity and concord, may be faithfully maintained among all of us as a peculiar people, called and chosen out of the world and the errors and corruptions thereof"—

If, therefore, it be in accordance with the "important principles and usages of the Society" for the Yearly Meeting to appoint such Committees, and charge them with the duty of advising and laboring with both Meetings, and individuals, it surely can be no disregard of such important principles and usages, for such Committees to attend to their appointments, and faithfully labor for the upholding of our testimonies, and for the right administration of the discipline —

This is precisely what the Committee of New England Yearly Meeting have done, and all they have done, in the case alluded to —

As to the charge of the Yearly Meeting's Committee requiring the Friend to make concessions to them, and endeavoring to induce him to sign a written acknowledgment, drawn up by a part of their own body, the facts are these; — The Friend had written a letter to a member, of a Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee, with which that Committee were dissatisfied as containing passages, which they said appeared to bear upon the doctrinal views of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee — The Friend himself gives the following account of the origin of the paper which the Report calls "a written acknowledgment drawn up by a part of their own body."
We quote from a book called "A Narrative and Exposition," &c. — by John Wilbur, published 1845, p. 52.

"But to this, J. W. said, as he had heretofore said, that it was not his intention to charge the Committee with unsoundness; and if it would give the Committee any satisfaction he was still prepared so to say, [by way of explanation] and as they had asked the question, he would say, that he was as willing to say it in writing as verbally, as it could not then be misconstrued."

And again we quote from the same work of John Wilbur, p. 55.
"Soon after they (the Yearly Meeting's Committee) asked J. W. if he were willing to commit to writing his expressions, that he had no intention of charging the Committee with unsoundness? to which he answered in the affirmative, inasmuch as he had quite a choice that such explanation, if made at all, should be in writing; and proposed, if A. S. had a pencil, that he would sketch it out." (meaning then while we were sitting.)

On this declaration of the Friend of his willingness to make such explanation, and on his request, made by him to A. S. a paper was drawn up by him, of which the following is a copy.

"Feelings of uneasiness having rested on the minds of the Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee, in consequence of some expressions contained in a letter written by me to one of their number under date of 5 mo. 30th. 1840, from an apprehension that I meant therein to charge the members of that Committee with holding unsound doctrines, I feel willing to relieve their minds from such apprehension by now saying that it was not my intention to be so understood. And further I am willing to say that I regret that any thing was so unguardedly expressed in said letter as to bear the construction that I meant to reflect upon said Committee to the prejudice of their standing in society. And having in said letter attributed to that Committee expressions that they do not own as having been made by them, I am willing to believe that I misunderstood the sentiments they meant to convey; and consequently to withdraw such charges."

This paper he declined to sign.

A Friend writes a letter to his friend, in which the latter thinks he perceives some paragraphs implicating him and other Friends. The writer disavows any intention of making such implications, and expresses his willingness to disavow in writing any intention of doing so. Whereupon, at his request, a paper is prepared containing such disavowal which he then refuses to sign.

This is the transaction which our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting consider and specify as a disregard on the part of New England Yearly Meeting, of important principles and usages of our Society as well as private rights," — by a Committee of that Yearly Meeting requiring one, with whom they were according to the "Report" dealing as an offender, to make concessions to them, and "endeavoring to induce him to sign a written acknowledgment, drawn up by a part of their own body" —

Thus it seems merely a friendly act of assistance to the writer of the letter, rendered at his express desire, in making an explanation of his meaning which he said was misunderstood — which explanation he expressed himself willing to make in writing; — and which, it seems to us, every upright minded man would not only be willing, but desirous, to make —

Can our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting seriously consider this transaction one of those "reasons for manifesting disunity with the Yearly Meeting of New England?" —

The third disregard of important principles and usages of the Society specified in the "Report", is as follows: —

> "Third. In the same Committee's drawing up a charge against a member, bringing it immediately before his Monthly Meeting and insisting upon its being recorded on the minutes, against the urgent request of the accused that it should be previously investigated; thereby assuming to itself functions which rightfully belong to the overseers and to the Preparative Meeting."

In the usual course of the administration of the discipline upon offenders, it is undoubtedly true, that the usage of Friends has generally been, — but by no means uniformly so, — for the notice of the offence to be brought to the Monthly Meeting by the overseers; and through the Preparative Meeting —

It is unquestionably important, that a charge of delinquency, against a member, should never be brought to the Monthly Meeting, without investigation, or without previous labor and endeavors to remedy the deficiency, or settle the offence (if it may so be done without harm to the cause,) without the exposure consequent upon disciplinary proceedings in a Monthly Meeting —

But here was a case of general notoriety; — the person accused had no wish or desire that the acts complained of should be concealed. He sought notoriety — he was bearing a public testimony, as he said, against unsound doctrines. His defence was justification, — and the ground of his acquittal by the Committee of seven in the Monthly Meeting, was, not a denial of the acts complained of, but an averment, that those acts were justifiable and right, and the record of his acts upon the books of the books of the Monthly Meeting, would in his view of the case, be a record of his faithfulness. No want of investigation can be justly alleged in the case; it had been thoroughly examined, — first by a committee of the Select Quarterly Meeting, and then by a Committee of the Yearly Meeting, and the individual had been labored with, in reference to it for years.

Neither was precedent wanting for the course pursued. In the year 1777, a Committee of the Yearly Meeting addressed the following communication to one of the Monthly Meetings:

"To the Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Long Plain, for Sandwich, the 2d of the 10th mo. 1777. Dear Friends, we being under appointment by last Yearly Meeting to visit your Meeting, and such members thereof as might seem necessary, and to give such advice as might seem suitable, respecting Timothy Davis' publishing a pamphlet on taxation, as well as the matter of the pamphlet, do first advise & recommend that each one settle down in close attendance to that Divine and enlightening gift, measurably bestowed on each one of us; and we fully believe that therein you will discover, that there remains a labor for you yet to do, in order to clear our holy profession and testimony of truth from the suffering and reproach occasioned by said pamphlet as well as the manner of publishing it; and in that state of humbly waiting on Divine wisdom, we doubt not you will find truth to open the way for further counsel and advice, and friendly admonition to Timothy, and we advise that you fully discharge yourselves therein; and if after all he shall remain inflexible to your labor of love, and cannot be brought to a sight and sense of his missteps, and in Godly sorrow which worketh repentance, not to be repented of, give forth a condemnation of said pamphlet, and publish the same as our discipline requires; that you then put the rule of discipline prescribed for obstinate transgressors in execution. But in case you remain divided in sentiment, and there be such among you as shall not conform and submit hereto, our advice is, that you lay the matter before your Quarterly Meeting, in order, that if it cannot be finished by their assistance, they may send the same to our next Yearly Meeting."

"Signed,

Benjamin Burney Jr,	Joshua Fulsom,
Daniel Newhall,	Benjamin Buffington,
William Buffum,	George Comstock."
Abraham Dow.	

Under these circumstances, in the entire absence of any specific provision of the discipline applicable to the case, it cannot be said with propriety, we think, that important principles and usages of the society, were disregarded by the course pursued.

The fourth particular in which the Report alleges a disregard of important principles and usages of our Society, is as follows: —

"Fourth. In the same Committee's bringing the power and authority of the Yearly Meeting to bear upon the Monthly Meeting, by claiming the right to join the Committee of the latter in treating with the Friend and refusing to him the right of opening and explaining what he alleged to be the ground on which he had acted in the discharge of an apprehended duty."

By referring to the narrative part of the "Report," "embracing," as the authors state, "the facts in which both parties substantially agree," — we find it stated, that

"In the 7th. mo. six of the Yearly Meeting's Committee met the Committee of nine appointed by the Monthly Meeting to attend to the case brought into the Meeting by the Yearly Meetings Committee — The Yearly Meeting's Committee laid before this Committee of the Monthly Meeting their proof for establishing the correctness of their charge." *

How can it be said in accordance with this statement, that the Yearly Meeting's Committee "claimed the right to join the Committee of the Monthly Meeting, in treating with the Friend &c" — Or how can they be said to have disregarded any "important principles and usages of the Society, or private rights &c" — On the contrary it seems to us, that if they had failed to furnish proof of the correctness of the representation of the case which they had made to the Monthly Meeting, the Yearly Meetings Committee would have failed in an important part of their duty, and might have been justly charged with disregarding "private rights," by making representations to the Monthly Meeting, respecting one of its members, of the truth of which, they furnished no evidence —

They objected, to be sure, to an inquiry before the Committee of a Monthly Meeting appointed to treat with an alleged offender, as to the soundness or unsoundness of printed and published works on religious doctrines; — and they objected properly; neither by the discipline nor the usages of the Society, are such Committees constituted judges of such published doctrinal works; — and, in our view, it would be dangerous to the peace and welfare of the Society, that they should be so constituted — It seems to us, that there would be great danger from such a course, that a varying and different standard would prevail in different Monthly Meetings — In New-England Yearly Meeting and in all others, a differently constituted body from a Committee of a Monthly Meeting is authorised to pronounce judgment upon publications on the doctrines of Friends —

---

* "Report." p. 7.

Finding the committee of the Monthly Meeting disposed to usurp the place of this body and enter upon this important work for which they were not appointed, and a work which by the discipline they were not authorized to undertake, the Yearly Meeting's Committee bore their testimony against it, by refusing to sanction it by their presence – thereby maintaining the wholesome restraints of our discipline –

The fifth particular in which, according to the "Report," important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, have been disregarded in the proceedings of New England Yearly Meeting, is thus specified:

"Fifth. In the same committee's objecting at a subsequent Monthly Meeting to the reception and adoption of a Report signed by seven of the Committee who had investigated the case and declared that the charges had not been sustained, while they advised the reading of a report of an opposite character signed by two of the Monthly Meeting's Committee, although it was strongly objected to in the meeting."

Whether by thus objecting to the report of the seven, — "important principles and usages of the Society" were disregarded, — or whether, by such a course, such principles and usages were advocated and maintained, must necessarily depend upon the nature of the report itself, and upon what principles and usages that was founded –

The report of the seven to the Monthly Meeting, after stating that they had notified the parties of the time and place of meeting, (the accused,) and that several of the Yearly Meeting's Committee attended, and were heard upon the several matters contained in the Complaint, states their conclusion as follows: —

"Upon a full and deliberate investigation of the case, our judgment is, that the charges against (the Friend accused) have not been sustained; but that his defence is sufficient to exonerate him from the same; — it appearing from the evidence brought before us, that the Complaint originated on account of the labors (of the accused) under an apprehension of his religious duty, and in conformity with our Christian discipline, against the introduction into our Society of defective principles and doctrines, and for the preservation of those ancient testimonies of truth, committed to us, as a people. We therefore recommend that the complaint against him be dismissed."

The complaint upon which this report was made accuses him among other things, that he had

"Circulated an anonymous pamphlet which impeached the character of our Society, and in which some of its important doctrines as exemplified in the religious engagements of some of its faithful ministers, are reproachfully held up to view;" — that he had "circulated divers letters, one or more of which appears to have been written in England, and others originating with himself, addressed to different Friends in this country, which were intended to show that the minister thus liberated for religious service, was not in unity with his friends at home, contrary to the long establised order of our religious Society, and designed to close his way in the minds of Friends;" — That he had indulged in a spirit of detraction, in speaking and writing, by which the religious character of divers Friends in our own and other Yearly Meetings had been much misrepresented;" — that he had "made divers assertions tending to induce dissatisfaction among Friends, and with the proceedings of our Yearly Meeting in various particulars, and calculated to produce divisions therein; and also to disturb the unity of different Yearly Meetings, and to alienate the feelings of their members from each other;" — that he had written a letter to a member of a Select Quarterly Meeting's Committee, "in which he made unjust insinuations, and preferred charges against them which they deny in points of fact" —

With respect to these charges, what does the Report to the Monthly Meeting, signed by the seven, find? Does it find them untrue? not at all. The evidence before the Monthly Meeting's Committee, produced by the Committee of the Yearly Meeting, forbids such conclusion, which among other things was, that he had spoken of the unsoundness of a minister from England; and that he would be supported *by* New England Yearly Meeting, on account of a like unsoundness in many of its members. That he had spoken of a controlling influence in New England Yearly Meeting, that was not a religious but a moneyed one, — and this, to a minister and his companion, strangers in the Yearly Meeting, just entering upon a religious visit within it; — and further, he stated to the same minister and his companion, that if *they* were not on their guard, *they* would buy them, — that they had already got + and + + from England, — that other Friends had been low and humble-minded, but they were bought over to the same, (that is, the moneyed influence.)

We say, that the Report of the seven to the Monthly Meeting, does not undertake to state any of these things untrue, but that, in the language of that Report, "his defence was sufficient to exonerate him from the same." — What was this defence? We quote it from the report of the seven —

"His labors under an apprehension of his religious duty, and in conformity with our Christian Discipline, against the introduction into our Society of defective principles and doctrines, and for the preservation of those ancient testimonies of truth, committed to us as a people" —

The doctrine of the Report of the Seven, then clearly was, that it was justifiable in a member, to circulate anonymous pamphlets impeaching the character of our Society, & in which its important doctrines are reproachfully held up to view; — to circulate letters intended to show, that Certificates of unity by Meetings, to Friends travelling in the ministry, had been issued when such unity did not exist, — to indulge in a spirit of detraction by which the religious character of divers Friends, had been much misrepresented, — to make assertions tending to induce dissatisfaction among Friends, and with the proceedings of the Yearly Meeting, and calculated to produce divisions therein, and to alienate the feelings of their members from each other. All this was justifiable, if done under the professions of labors under an apprehension of religious duty, and in conformity with our Christian discipline, against the introduction into our Society of defective principles and doctrines, and for the preservation of those ancient testimonies of truth, committed to us as a people".

It appears to us, that the acts and spirit of which the Friend was accused, and the truth and correctness of which are not denied in the Report of the Seven, are entirely inconsistent with religious duty, or our Christian discipline; and it is equally clear that to oppose the reception and adoption of such a report, is supporting, instead of disregarding "important principles and usages of our Society".

Sixthly, — the "Report" specifies as an act of disregard of important principles and usages of the Society as follows: —

> "Sixth. In the attempt made, first, by the Quarterly Meetings committee and afterwards by the Quarterly Meeting itself, to render null and void the minute of South Kingston Monthly Meeting which accepted the Report in the case of the Friend alluded to, dismissed the charge against him and restored him to all his rights as a member and minister; and in afterwards taking up his case by another Monthly Meeting on the same charge and then disowning him without even going through the regular course prescribed by the discipline".

To sustain the position taken here the "Report" states that "it is a great maxim of law and justice, that when a man has been tried and acquitted he cannot be again tried for the same offence". We say it is a maxim of the law that a man cannot be tried a second time after acquittal for the same offence; but this maxim is founded rather on policy than on justice. Law-makers have decided that in civil society, in the administration of criminal jurisprudence, it is politic to provide that an acquittal after a legal and constitutional trial, shall be taken as a presumption of innocence, or in other words that a man shall not be put in jeopardy twice for the same offence. It is a maxim of policy merely; absolute justice requires that the really innocent should be held innocent, and the really guilty should be so held.

But if we suppose that this maxim of the Law is properly applicable to ecclesiastical trials in our Society, that other maxim of the Law, inseparable from it, must certainly be recognized with it, namely, that the first trial must be a legal, constitutional and perfect trial — that the tribunal must be a competent one, qualified to try and determine the case, and the proceedings must be free from error, and the judgment rendered in every respect conformably to Law; else it is held in Law void, and no bar to a legal trial at a subsequent time.

In this case first the Competency of the tribunal is impeached, the Quarterly Meeting decided, and there can be no doubt of their right so to decide that [illegible] Monthly Meeting were not in a suitable state to conduct the affairs of the Church in accordance with our Christian discipline, nor consistently with our religious profession, and if so, were not a competent tribunal; — and second, there was error in the proceedings, inasmuch as the judgment was rendered in direct opposition to the advice of Committees both of the Yearly and Quarterly Meetings appointed to advise and assist that Monthly Meeting. For these and other reasons the proceedings were annulled by the Quarterly Meeting; and thus, even in the contemplation of the maxim of the Law, there was no legal and constitutional trial, and no bar to a subsequent legal trial. It is a matter of common practise for decisions at Law to be set aside and new trials granted for errors either in Law or in fact.

But we hold that the maxim of law, that an acquittal after a legal trial is a bar to a subsequent trial for the same offence, is not a maxim of essential justice, nor can it be applied to cases of dealing with offenders in our religious Society, without consequences totally subversive of the essential objects of our religious compact. How shall the Society hold up the standard of righteousness to the nations if they justify the evil-doer in any case or under any circumstances? If Monthly Meetings through weakness or any other cause justify wrong, or fail to testify against it, how can the Society say that their testimony to the necessity of a Christian life and conversation is consistently borne? —

Oh, in the authority of truth, judgment is to be placed upon the transgressor, and that irrespective of whether he may have been justified by his Monthly Meeting or not —

We believe in the language of a Philadelphia publication:—[+]

"If that (the Monthly) Meeting is derelict in its duty, the obligation rests upon its superior or Quarterly Meeting to take the case in hand, and see that the integrity of the Society is preserved by the faithful maintainance of its principles. But should that Meeting also fail to perform the part required of it, then its superior or Yearly Meeting is responsible to the whole Society that care shall be taken, and adequate means employed to prevent its existence from being endangered by the continual destruction of the band which holds it together".

The necessity of this we think will appear clear to the unprejudiced mind of every member of our Society, if we suppose that the offence complained of were one which no one would be inclined to question. Suppose a Friend commits the offence of accepting a commission in the army, and is acquitted by a Monthly Meeting on the ground of justification,—that is, "that his defence was sufficient to exonerate him from the same,"—a Yearly and Quarterly Meeting's Committee being present advising and enjoining against the acquital, would the Society be forever precluded from bearing testimony against this offender, on the ground that a man, once acquitted, cannot by "the maxims of law and justice" be again tried for the same offence after acquittal? Or suppose a complaint to be made against a member for some scandalous departure from the moral law, and he should be acquitted for want of evidence of the fact,—must this scandal never be testified against when evidence sufficient appears, because of such member having been once tried & acquitted?

It may well and pertinently be asked in view of the position taken in the "Report" applying the maxim of the law to the discipline of the Society,—what evils and heresies may not be harbored in the bosom of the Church, which a weak Monthly Meeting or a corrupt or apostate Monthly Meeting may justify or excuse?—

We come now to the Seventh particular alleged to be in disregard of important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, viz—

"Seventh. In disregarding the provisions of the discipline of New England Yearly Meeting, in the manner of laying down South Kingston Monthly Meeting, by Rhode-Island Quarter, and attaching its members to Greenwich Monthly Meeting."

The discipline of New England Yearly Meeting under the head of

---

[+] Considerations addressed to the members of the Yearly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia," p. 22.

"Discipline and Meetings for Discipline," a title purporting general provisions and general principles, provides as follows, p.p. 42, 43: —

> "Agreed that no Quarterly Meeting be set up, divided into two, or discontinued but by the Yearly Meeting; no Monthly Meeting, but by the Quarterly; no Preparative, or meeting of worship, but by the Monthly Meeting, which is the lowest meeting that has the right of disowning members. These Meetings are to continue subordinate and accountable thus; The Preparative to the Monthly, the Monthly to the Quarterly, and the Quarterly to the Yearly Meeting; so that if at any time the Yearly Meeting be dissatisfied with the proceedings of any of the said Meetings, or the Quarterly Meeting with the proceedings of any of the Monthly Meetings, or the ~~the~~ Monthly Meeting with the proceedings of any of the Preparative Meetings within its limits, such Meetings ought with readiness & meekness to render a satisfactory account accordingly" —

Here is a clear and full description of the powers of each of the Meetings which "for the regular and easy proceeding in the service and discipline of the Church have been by divine assistance set up and established, serviceable and subordinate one unto another". These powers have been from time to time exercised in New England Yearly Meeting since its establishment without question and without demur.

Quarterly Meetings have been set up and divided into two by the Yearly Meeting, and doubtless would have been discontinued by the same authority had occasion called for such a measure; — Monthly Meetings have been set up and divided into two by the Quarterly Meetings, with as little question or demur whenever the welfare of the body has in the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting demanded those measures. And Preparative Meetings and meetings for worship have been set up, divided into two and discontinued by the Monthly Meetings.

All this has been done, and never has the power so to do by these meetings been doubted or questioned; — yet we may look in vain through the printed discipline for any provisions authorizing these proceedings except in the parts extracted above. Indeed there would seem to be no room for question on the subject. When the discipline says no Quarterly Meeting shall be set up, divided into two, or discontinued but by the Yearly Meeting, does it not in effect say that a Quarterly Meeting may be set up, divided into two, or discontinued by the Yearly Meeting? And when it makes provision that no Monthly Meeting shall be set up, divided into two, or discontinued, but by the Quarterly Meeting, does it not in fact provide, that a Monthly Meeting may be set up, divided into two or discontinued by the Quarterly Meeting? — And so of the power of the Monthly Meetings over the Preparative Meetings and meetings for worship. Such has been at all times the understanding of Friends, and the practise of Friends in New England Yearly Meeting, so far as occasion has called for, — and such understanding and practise has never until now been called in question.

Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, in consequence of their general powers, had clearly the right by the discipline, at their discretion, and at such times and in such manner as they believed in the wisdom of truth, the welfare of the society and of the cause to require, to discontinue South Kingston Monthly Meeting. It was also *clearly* within their power in pursuance of the duties assigned to Quarterly Meetings, to see that the discipline was properly exercised in their subordinate Meetings, to provide that the members of that Monthly Meeting should be under the care of some Monthly Meeting; for in no other way could the regular order of the discipline be preserved.

We think it will no-where be questioned that it is the duty of the Quarterly Meeting to see that all their members have the privilege of membership in some Monthly Meeting, and that they be under the care of some Monthly Meeting, to enable them to accomplish marriage, to procure certificates of removal, to receive aid if poor, and to provide that they be admonished, and dealt with if they offend; indeed the whole organization of the Society, in respect to the administration of its discipline, absolutely requires this.

What then is there, in the discipline to limit this general power? A clause of the discipline is quoted in the "Report" as follows.

> "When a Quarterly Meeting hath come to a judgment respecting any difference, relative to any Monthly Meeting belonging to them, and notified the same in writing to such Monthly Meeting, the said Monthly Meeting ought to submit to the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting; but if such Monthly Meeting shall not be satisfied therewith, then the Monthly Meeting may appeal to the Yearly Meeting against the judgment and determination of the Quarterly Meeting. And if a Monthly Meeting shall *refuse* to take the advice and submit to the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting and notwithstanding *will not appeal* against the determination of the said Meeting to the Yearly Meeting; in *such case*, the Quarterly shall be at liberty either to dissolve such Monthly Meeting, or bring the affair before the next or succeeding Yearly Meeting. And in case a Quarterly Meeting shall dissolve a Monthly Meeting, the dissolved Monthly Meeting, or any part thereof, in the name of the said Meeting, shall be at liberty to appeal to the next or succeeding Yearly Meeting, against such dissolution; but if the dissolved Monthly Meeting, or a part thereof on its behalf, shall *not appeal* to the Yearly Meeting, the

Quarterly Meeting shall join the members of the said late Monthly Meeting, to such other Monthly Meeting as they may think most convenient; and until such time, shall take care that no inconvenience doth thereby ensue to the members of such dissolved meeting, respecting any branch of our discipline" —

This portion of discipline was adopted, as appears by the date appended to it, in 1743 — That portion which we have before quoted, was adopted much later, to wit, in 1760. If, therefore, there be any doubt of the entire harmony of the two portions quoted, that last established must by all rules of proper interpretation take precedence —

We think there is no such want of harmony — What then is the true intent and meaning of the portion of discipline of 1743, last quoted?

It seems to us that it was intended to apply to a particular case and state of things in a Monthly Meeting —

"When a Quarterly Meeting have come to a judgment respecting any difference, relative to any Monthly Meeting belonging to them" What does this suppose but that there exists in the Monthly Meeting a difference which they are unable to reconcile, and which requires the care of the Quarterly Meeting — a difference which obstructs the regular exercise of the discipline? — In such a case disciplinary proceedings should all be calculated and intended to end that difference. And how shall this be done? — The provisions of the discipline of 1743 are all aimed and intended for this end: first, "the Monthly Meeting ought to submit" — and if so, the difference is ended; or second, if this cannot be, if the stiffness of the parties to the difference prevent it, or if their honest though mistaken views cannot be overcome even by the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting, they may appeal to the Yearly Meeting, that through the labors of that body the difference may be reconciled — But if the Monthly Meeting will neither submit nor appeal, so that no way remains for harmony to be restored; rather than that they continue together in discord, the Quarterly Meeting may dissolve the Monthly Meeting — or they may carry the case to the Yearly Meeting, that that body may exercise their care to end the difference — And when the Monthly Meeting is dissolved, they may still claim the care and judgment of the Yearly Meeting, by appeal either to decide the controversy, or if possible otherwise reconcile the difference — And if they do not appeal, the Quarterly Meeting may join the members to such other Monthly Meetings as they may think most convenient —

We believe that if the power of the Quarterly Meetings to lay down or dissolve Monthly Meetings were restricted in all cases to the mode pointed out by the portion of discipline of 1743, cases might happen in which serious detriment to the cause of truth and our profession would occur. For supposing a Monthly Meeting, or so considerable a number of such meeting as that they should control its proceedings, should wholly depart from our religious profession in any essential particulars; if the Quarterly Meeting to which they were subordinate were restricted, as the "Report" supposes,— the members of such Monthly Meeting might have been in practises wholly contrary to, and subversive of our religious testimonies for a long time before the testimony of the Society could be issued against them.

The Quarterly Meeting must be held, and come to a judgment and notify the same in writing to the Monthly Meeting,— the Monthly Meeting may claim time for consideration, whether they will appeal, and if finally they appeal, the time of the next or next succeeding Yearly Meeting must come round, and when they have decided, their conclusion must go back to the Quarterly Meeting, before the Monthly Meeting can be laid down. Then as the "Report" contends, they have another appeal from the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting, laying down their Monthly Meeting, and finally, after the decision of the next or next succeeding Yearly Meeting on this second appeal, and not till then, is the Quarterly Meeting authorized to join the members of the dissolved Monthly Meeting, to other Monthly Meetings, that they may be dealt with and reclaimed or disowned.

These proceedings would necessarily consume several years. In the mean time members of the Society of Friends are indulging in practises wholly subversive of our religious testimonies and laying them waste,— and until the Monthly Meeting be dissolved after the decision upon their first appeal they may at the same time be exercising the powers of a Monthly Meeting — granting certificates to members or ministers, authorizing marriages and doing all other things which Monthly Meetings may do.

Surely no one can believe that the discipline would countenance, or was intended to countenance a proceeding like this. The Yearly Meeting under such circumstances could not in our view be in any sense said to be exercising that "great and weighty oversight" over the "affairs of the churches pertaining to our holy profession and Christian Communion", which by the organization of the Society, they were designed to exercise.

Nor could an affirmative answer be given by the Monthly or Quarterly Meetings to the Query — "do you take due care regularly to deal with all offenders, in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, without partiality or unnecessary delay"? —

The position taken in the "Report" is that in the laying down of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting and immediately annexing its members to that of Greenwich, "important principles and usages of the Society, as well as private rights, have been disregarded."

Green Street Monthly Meeting, a constituent branch of Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, at a meeting held at the regular time and place, on the 26th of 4 mo. 1827, adopted certain measures subversive of the subordination and order provided for by the discipline, although such measures were remonstrated against by many members of that Monthly Meeting; and although a Committee of Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting appointed to visit its Monthly Meetings protested against the measure.

At Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, held in the 5 mo. 1827, the next succeeding the Monthly Meeting at Green Street, where the disorderly measures were adopted, the Quarterly Meeting proceeded to lay down Green Street Monthly Meeting, and by the same minute to annex the members to another Monthly Meeting, without ascertaining if the Monthly Meeting would appeal from the conclusion of the Quarterly Meeting, thus dissolving the Monthly Meeting, and at the same time appointed a committee to unite with and assist the Monthly Meeting to which they were annexed in such care and labor as may be requisite. The minute of the Quarterly Meeting laying down Green Street Monthly Meeting is as follows.

> "It appears by the foregoing report, as well as by information received from Green Street Monthly Meeting, that, notwithstanding all the labor extended, it has cast off the subordination due to this Meeting, and rejected its authority; and in other respects has clearly manifested that the members are not in a capacity satisfactorily to transact the business of the Monthly Meeting; it is therefore concluded that the said Monthly Meeting be dissolved; and in order that our discipline may be regularly maintained and supported in its various branches, it is hereby directed that the members of Green Street Meeting be united to the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia for the Northern district; and the following Friends are appointed to unite with and assist the last named Meeting in such care and labor as may be requisite, (viz. T. S. and others:) and they are desired to inform the members of Green Street Meeting of this conclusion, and to request that they will deliver to them the books and papers of that Meeting." — Foster's Report, Vol. 2. p.p. 489. 490.

The rectitude and propriety of these proceedings were never questioned by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, nor was it ever held by that meeting that there was in them any disregard of important principles or usages of the Society or of private rights — and as stated in the "Report", we are one people the world over.

With what propriety then can New England Yearly Meeting be called upon to concede that a measure which in one Yearly Meeting is right and proper and in accordance with the "principles of religious duty and Christian doctrine, of civil liberty and Constitutional right common to us all," can have so far changed its character as to be in disregard of such principles when adopted in another Yearly Meeting, even if there be a reasonable doubt as to the meaning of a clause of the discipline of the latter, and its applicability to the case which relates simply to the manner of proceeding in the laying down of a Monthly Meeting and annexing its members to other Monthly Meetings.

But even supposing the article of discipline of 1743 to be the only authority for the laying down of a Monthly Meeting by a Quarterly Meeting, — which is by no means conceded, — there are many grounds upon which it may be properly contended that in the case of South Kingstown this discipline was substantially complied with. A Committee of the Quarterly Meeting was appointed to advise and assist this Monthly Meeting. They visited it and examined into its state and they came to a judgment respecting it. If it be contended that this was not a judgment come to by the Quarterly Meeting, is this certain? — May it not be substantially so? Is there no discretion in Meetings for discipline by which their powers may be delegated on proper occasions? May not circumstances exist, in which it would be quite allowable for a Quarterly Meeting to clothe a Committee with power to judge and act for them? — Circumstances, in which such power would be highly conducive to the welfare of the body, & the support of order and our religious principles and testimonies? We can readily conceive of such circumstances.

Suppose a Monthly Meeting in a state requiring the care of the Quarterly Meeting — and facts existing in it, in which delay would bring suffering to the cause — which facts were not fully understood by the Quarterly Meeting. May they not appoint a Committee and give them authority to go into the Monthly Meeting, examine the facts, and in the light of Truth give such judgment in the name of the Quarterly Meeting as they might find necessary? — and in effect, if not in form, would not such judgment be the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting, — more especially if such judgment should afterwards be confirmed by the Quarterly Meeting? —

The discipline of New England Yearly Meeting on the subject of appeals, provides, that the superior Meetings to which the appeal is made,

> "Is to take said appeal into consideration and determine thereon by a committee to be appointed for that purpose".

The superior Meeting determines the appeal. But they do it by a Committee. This is a case of delegated power, where the Committee's acts are clearly the acts of the Meeting, and are so provided to be, by the discipline. Again, the powers of the Meeting for Sufferings are delegated powers. They act on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, and their acts, within their powers, are the acts of the Yearly Meeting in effect. They are "in general to represent this (the Yearly) Meeting in all cases where the reputation and interest of Truth and our religious society are concerned, provided they do not meddle with matters of faith and discipline not already determined in the Yearly Meeting".

Another instance of delegated power is to be found authorized by the discipline, which requires the Meetings for Sufferings

> To keep "records of all their proceedings, which are annually to be laid before this (the Yearly) Meeting, or such Committee as it may appoint to inspect or view the same" —

The judgment of such Committee may clearly be taken as the judgment of the Yearly Meeting respecting the proceedings of the Meeting for Sufferings.

South Kingstown Monthly Meeting had received in writing the judgment of a Committee of the Quarterly Meeting appointed to advice them, on its behalf. Is it then "an assumption," as the "Report" holds "which would totally change the long established practise of the Society," to consider this judgment in effect if not in form as the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting? The long established practise of the Society, is, as we have seen, in favor of the delegation of the powers of Meetings to committees in cases of appeals. In such cases, in New England Yearly Meeting, and we apprehend, in all the American Yearly Meetings, and that of London except where faith or doctrine is involved in the appeal — the judgment of the Committee is the judgment of the Meeting, unless it can be shown that the committee on the appeal have refused the parties a fair hearing, or have otherwise transcended or abused their powers.

South Kingstown Monthly Meeting did neither submit to the judgment communicated to them by a Committee appointed to act on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting, nor appeal, and were thereupon laid down.

We think therefore that it is an uncharitable assumption of the "Report" that this transaction was in disregard of "important principles and usages of the Society or of private rights". In effect and substantially it was in accordance with the discipline. If it differed from it, which we do not admit, it differed only in form and not in substance; and it cannot and ought not to be stamped as a departure from the "principles of religious duty or Christian doctrine" — or from any principles of "civil liberty or constitutional right", applicable to the disciplinary proceedings of our Society, or "common to us all", as members of the Society.

We proceed to consider the eighth particular wherein the "Report" charges a disregard of important principles and usages of our Society and private rights — viz —

"Eighth — In the manner in which the members of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee interfered to produce a separation in Swanzey Monthly Meeting" —

And here our Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting have fallen into an error, quite important to a true understanding of the state of things at Swanzey Monthly Meeting when the separation took place — They state in substance that the person who had for some years previous acted as clerk, was acknowledged by both "parties" to have been in that station when the Meeting adjourned the month before —* New England Yearly Meeting do not and never have so acknowledged — And in the "Report" itself, p. 17. speaking of the Monthly Meeting held the month before the separation, our friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting state that the Meeting which they style the larger body,

> "Assert — that when the names of the Friends, who, by the advice of the Yearly and Quarterly Meeting's Committees, were reported to that Monthly Meeting for clerk and Overseers, were so proposed in the Meeting, the reports were fully united with by the large body of the members of the Meeting, and that the clerk refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, though advised to do so by the Yearly Meeting's Committee" —

At the adjournment of this Meeting, then, it cannot be said that Friends acknowledged this person to be in the station of clerk — The Monthly Meeting had concluded upon another person for clerk, and the only reason why this conclusion was not recorded was because the person who had theretofore acted as clerk, & who was at the table, refused to do his duty —

When the Meeting next assembled, then it is perfectly clear that the former clerk could have no pretension to be in that station, unless he claimed it in consequence of his own neglect and refusal to do his duty the month before —

He however took a seat at the table, and undertook to act, claiming still to be clerk, having refused to make a true record of the appointment by the former meeting of another person who was then concluded on —

To show how Friends of New England Yearly Meeting view this matter, and what they acknowledge and what they deny in relation to it, we make the following extract from a report made to the Yearly Meeting, in 1845, by a committee of the representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, except Rhode-Island, to whom had been referred the questions arising from the

---

"*" "Report," p. 36 —

fact of representatives from two bodies appearing there as representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, viz.:—

"We are also united in judgment, that at said Monthly Meeting, in the 7mo. Thomas Wilbur was bound by the discipline and good order of our Society to record the clearly expressed sense of the Monthly Meeting appointing David Shove as its clerk, in accordance with the advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee; and by refusing to do so, so far departed from the discipline and usages of our society, as well as from the subordination of inferior to superior meetings, and individuals to the body, as to disqualify him from any longer holding the office of Clerk of Swanzey Monthly Meeting; and said office thereupon became vacant.— And it is further our sense & judgment, that at Swanzey Monthly Meeting in the 8mo. David Shove was rightfully the clerk, having been thereto duly appointed, and was, remained, and is, the only properly constituted clerk of Swanzey Monthly Meeting."

This report and these conclusions were accepted and made by New-England Yearly Meeting, in 1845.— Both parties, then, do not agree that the Clerk who had been in office remained in office when the meeting adjourned the month before.— New-England Yearly Meeting distinctly deny it, and assert the contrary.— They assert, that at the Monthly Meeting next before the separation; viz. in the 7th mo. the office of clerk became vacant, in consequence of the former clerk refusing to do his duty and thereby becoming disqualified.—

At the next Monthly Meeting, viz. in the 8mo. to the Clerk duly appointed, viz. David Shove, the representatives from the preparative meetings, reported; with him the Quarterly Meetings Committee united; him they acknowledged, and to him they presented their minute of appointment from the Quarterly Meeting, and the same was read by him and minuted by him.— With the body whose clerk he was, to wit, Swanzey Monthly Meeting, their duties lay, and with that body they performed them.

We do not perceive in all this any disregard of important principles or usages of our Society, or of private rights, but on the contrary a steady maintainance of both.—

We have now briefly passed in review the eight prominent particulars in which we are accused by Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, of departing from discipline and of disregard of the rights of our former members.— The subject is a painful one.— It is painful to perceive how far the honest endeavors of Friends faithfully to uphold and maintain our Christian order may be misunderstood.— But we still hope that the restoring influence of the gospel of peace, may so abound as that these misunderstandings may be reconciled.

The true unity and fellowship of the members of that body of which Christ Jesus our Lord is the alone and holy Head is precious. It is that into which the truth leads all the truly devoted and humble believers. It is our sincere and fervent desire that all who make the high and holy profession unto which we are called, may seek more and more diligently to be found in this precious unity — the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. For this end individual faithfulness, daily bearing the cross of Christ, humility before the Lord and watchfulness unto prayer are indispensable.

If any man will come after me, let him take up his daily cross and follow me. As this is our blessed experience we shall witness an increase of this precious unity, we shall be drawn nearer one unto another in the love of the gospel, remembering the exhortation of the Apostle, "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as new-born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." — 1 Peter II, 1—5

At a Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held at Providence, 4th of 2 mo. 1852.

The foregoing essay in vindication of the Disciplinary proceedings of New England Yearly Meeting, was at this time read, and being deliberately considered, was approved and adopted, and it is concluded that the same be published; and the Clerk is directed to append thereto a copy of this minute, and sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

The committee are continued, and are requested to cause an edition of 6000 copies thereof to be printed, and to circulate such portion of them previous to our next meeting as may be deemed advisable.

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held at East Greenwich, 5th of 5 mo. 1852. Present at this time, 18 members, viz. Rowland Greene, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Periah Collins, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, & Micajah C Pratt.

The Friends appointed to examine the memoranda kept by Eli & Sybil Jones, concerning their visit to the American Colonies in Africa, inform that they have examined the same, and that they give evidence of our friends having during their visit been preserved in the Truth, & that much valuable information is contained in the Memoranda which is worthy of preservation — The Clerk is therefore directed to place them upon file, for the future disposition of this meeting —

The Committee to cause an Edition of the Essay in Vindication of the Disciplinary proceedings of our Yearly Meeting to be published, inform that they have had 6000 copies thereof printed, about 4000 of which have been distributed, mostly in other Yearly Meetings; And the expense incurred thereby, has been provided for, without calling upon our Yearly Meetings Treasurer — Which is satisfactory to the Meeting — The Committee are continued, and are desired to make such further distribution of them, as they may deem advisable —

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is authorized to hire a sum of money not exceeding 6000 Dolls, for the purpose of defraying the expense incurred in the defence of Friends, in the suit at law brought against them by the Separatists —

We appoint our Friends Stephen A. Chase, David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Joseph Metcalf, & William Reynolds, to render any necessary assistance to Friends travelling among us in the ministry from other Yearly Meetings —

We appoint David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, William Reynolds, and Micajah C. Pratt, to render such advice as may appear desirable and necessary to Friends, with regard to finding suitable accommodations while attending our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 12th of 6mo. 1852 — Present at this time 34 members Viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Farnum, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, Stephen A Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Thomas Jones, & Moses Taber —

Our beloved Friends Daniel Barker, & Joseph Irwin from North-Carolina Yearly Meeting, Jonah Sands from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Jesse Kenworthy from Ohio Yearly Meeting, & Seneca Hazard from

Newyork Yearly Meeting are also acceptably with us—

The committee to have charge of the defence of Friends in the suit at law brought against them by the Separatists, presented the following Report viz—

"To the Meeting for Sufferings—

The Committee to give attention to the suit at Law brought by the Separatists against Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, now inform that since their report on this subject in the 2d month last, viz, on the 20th of the Fourth month last— the opinion of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts in the case was pronounced by the Chief Justice at Taunton in the County of Bristol—

This opinion sustained the grounds taken by Friends in their pleas, & other proceedings in the case, in every particular, and a decree was ordered perpetually enjoining the Separatists from ever making or pretending to make any claim to the property in question in the suit— It is a subject upon which we think Friends may feel much satisfaction, that the case in all its aspects as presented by the pleas and evidence was thoroughly examined by the Court, & very deliberately considered, & the united opinion of the court very ably prepared—

By this opinion the Court decide that no evidence had been presented in the case, which tended to show that Friends of our Yearly Meeting were or had been wanting in a full adherence to sound doctrine, as held by our predecessors in the Society and as ever held by Friends as a religious Community— and that the declaration of our faith issued by our Yearly Meeting in 1845, was not in any manner invalidated— And with the discipline before them, and quoting from the evidence of the separatists the court further decided that the proceedings of the several subordinate Meetings and of the Yearly Meeting in reference to the Seceders appeared to be entirely regular and in accordance with the discipline as well as with justice & propriety—

Thus this trying legal controversy has we trust been brought nearly to a close in a satisfactory manner—

Some matters of form yet remain to be attended to, which will require some further attention—

On behalf of the Committee

Newport 6 mo. 12th 1852— Stephen A Chase"

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting— and the committee are continued, and are desired to obtain a copy of the decision of the Court, as requested at our last meeting, and to have a suitable edition thereof published and distributed — And they are requested to make a final report when the object of their appointment shall be fully accomplished —

A Memorial from Weare Monthly Meeting approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting concerning Alice Page, and one from Durham Monthly Meeting approved by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting concerning Stephen Jones, were read and united with; and the Clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

The Committee to whom was refered the Memorial concerning Sophronia Page, at this time presented it; and the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

This meeting being informed, that it is apprehended, that petitions are in circulation, intended to be laid before the Legislature of the State of Rhode-Island, requesting that the Law of the State whereby Capital punishments were abolished may be repealed, the Meeting was brought into concern on account thereof; and we appoint our Friends John Osborne, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Stephen A. Chase, David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Anthony, & Perez Peck, to take the subject into solid consideration, & if in their judgment it should be deemed advisable to memorialize the Legislature on account thereof, they are requested to prepare a memorial for that purpose, and present it to a future meeting —

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6 mo. 18th 1852—

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, we are informed, that the same friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, with the exception of Abijah Chase, & George Howland deceased; and with the addition of George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum and Caleb Jones— Present at this time, 33 members, Viz— Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, Edward Wing, Benjamin Frye, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, and Caleb Jones—

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this Meeting, for the coming year—

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year, be as follows. Viz—

At Vassalboro, on 5th day after the 1st 6th day, in the 9 mo— at 10 o clk, in the morning—

At New Bedford, on 4th day before the 1st 5th day, in the 12 mo. at 11 o clk in the morning—

At Providence on 4th day, before the 1st 5th day, in the 2d mo— at 3 o clk. in the afternoon—

At East-Greenwich on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 5 mo— at 3 o clk, in the afternoon—

And at Newport, on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5 o clk. in the afternoon—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Vassalboro, 9th of 9 mo. 1852—

Present at this time 17 members, Viz— Joseph Metcalf, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Lemuel Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Moses Taber, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, and Caleb Jones—

The following communication was at this time received from our last Yearly Meeting; Viz—

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, in the sixth month 1852—

'It appearing to this meeting desirable that no two of the Quarterly Meetings within our limits shall be held on the same day. the Representatives to this meeting are requested to take the subject into consideration and report their views to a future Sitting"—

At a subsequent sitting the Representatives reported that they were united in proposing the reference of this subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, and said Meeting was requested to give its attention thereto, and communicate its views to our next Yearly Meeting—

"The Meeting for Sufferings is requested to cause an edition of the Memorials presented to this Meeting the present year, to be printed and distributed among Friends"—

From the Minutes of the Meeting—
Samuel Boyd Tobey. Clerk"—

Whereupon we appoint our friends Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, George Howland jr, William C. Taber, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, John Osborne, James N. Fry, John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, Benajah Buffum, Tobias Meader, Samuel Taylor jr, Allen Wing, Caleb Jones, & Lemuel Jones, to take the subject of making some change in the time of holding some of our Quarterly Meetings into consideration, and to consult Friends in the several Quarterly Meetings, in relation thereto, & report their views thereon, at a future Meeting—

And we appoint William C. Taber, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, and John Meader, to examine and revise the Memorials presented at our last Yearly Meeting, and to cause an edition thereof to be printed, and report to a future Meeting—

And there having been some memoranda, presented and read in a previous Sitting of this meeting, made by our late friend Sophronia Page, which it is apprehended may be useful to publish, the Committee are requested to examine said memoranda, and to annex the same as an appendix to the memorial respecting her, if in their judgment it shall be deemed advisable—

This Meeting having been informed that there have been made & kept by our late beloved friend Thankful Hussey, memoranda of her life & religious labors, from which it is apprehended a memoir might usefully be prepared and published, the subject has at this time claimed our solid deliberation; And we appoint our friends Samuel Taylor jr, Stephen Jones jr, Stephen A. Chase, Joseph Metcalf, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, Caleb Jones, and Lemuel Jones, to examine said memoranda, and if in their judgment it shall be deemed advisable to prepare a memoir respecting her therefrom, they are requested so to do, & to present the memoir to a future Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in New Bedford, 1. of 12 mo. 1852.
Present at this time 19 members Viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, Isaac Lawrence, William C. Taber, George Howland Jr, and Caleb Jones —

Several of our members who are not in attendance at this time, have forwarded reasons for their absence which are satisfactory —

The Committee to consider the subject of making a change in the time of holding some of our Quarterly Meetings, so that no two may be held upon the same day, inform, that they have given attention to their appointment, but not being prepared to Report in full at this time they are Continued —

The Committee to revise the Memorials of deceased Friends, presented at our last Yearly Meeting, and to print an edition thereof, inform that they have given attention to the subject, and that the Memorials are revised, and ready to be printed; The Committee are continued, and are desired to have an edition of 2500 copies thereof printed, and report to our next meeting — The Committee further report that they have examined the memoranda kept by our late friend Sophronia Page, and they would recommend that they be placed for the present upon file — with which this meeting unites —

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence, 2d of 2d mo. 1853 — Present at this time 21 members, Viz — Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Tarr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, George Howland Jr, William Reynolds, and Benajah Buffum —

The Committee to consider the subject of making a change in the time of holding some of our Quarterly Meetings, inform that attention has been given thereto; But not being prepared to report at this time they are continued, and are desired to report at a future meeting —

The Committee to revise and print an edition of the Memorials of deceased Friends presented at our last Yearly Meeting, inform that the Memorials have been revised, and that the printing thereof is now nearly accomplished — The Committee are continued, and are requested when the Memorials are printed, to divide them among our Quarterly Meetings, and to forward them thereto, for gratuitous distribution —

And the clerk of this meeting is directed to forward a few copies to the meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings —

A Communication from friends of Berwick Monthly Meeting was received at this time, as follows, Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The undersigned, members of Berwick Monthly Meeting would inform, that our Meeting House in North Berwick, continues to be occupied by the Separatists, on the days and times of our meetings for worship, and frequently to the disturbance of that quiet, into which it is desirable we should be gathered — We therefore ask the advice of the Meeting for Sufferings in relation to continuing to meet in the same house with them —

N. Berwick 1 mo 29 - 1853 —

Moses H. Hussey
Edward Evans
William Jepson
William Robinson
William Hussey
Benajah Varney
Stephen Jenkins
Joseph Brackett"

Elijah Neal
Isaiah Fry
Amasa Varney
Albert C Buffum
Elijah Varney
James Hussey
George Estes
Henry Estes
Nicholas A. Pinkham
John Hussey"

Which claiming our consideration, we appoint our friends Stephen A. Chase, John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, David Buffum, and John Meader, a committee with whom friends of Berwick Monthly Meeting, may consult and advise in relation thereto; And the committee are requested to report at a future meeting — And the clerk is directed to furnish Berwick Monthly Meeting, with a copy of this minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East-Greenwich 5 mo. 4th 1853 — Present at this time 16 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Perry Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Uriah Collins, Thomas Harkness, David K Akin, Stephen A. Chase, and William C. Taber —

The Committee to print an edition of the Memorials of deceased Friends, Report, that the service has been accomplished, and that the memorials have been forwarded to our Several Quarterly Meetings, in accordance with the directions given to the committee — And the expense attendant upon printing the Same, has been provided for —

A Testimony of Westport Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Anna Macomber, was at this time received and read; And we appoint our friends John Meader, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and Joseph Metcalf to examine the Same, and present it to our next meeting —

We appoint David Buffum, William Reynolds, John D. Lang, Perez Peck, Micajah C. Pratt, Samuel Jones, Samuel Taylor Jr, Benajah Buffum, William C. Taber, & John Osborne, to give Such information as may appear desirable and necessary to Friends, with regard to obtaining suitable accommodations, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

This meeting has been at this time introduced into a renewed concern that our testimony against Slavery may be faithfully held up to view; And after a season of solid deliberation thereon, we appoint our friends, Stephen A. Chase, John D. Lang, Joseph Metcalf, Rowland Greene, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, and William C. Taber, to consider whether any further action may be usefully taken thereon by this meeting at the present time, and report their views in relation thereto, at our next meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 11th of 6mo 1853 — Present at this time 30 members Viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins Abraham Barker, Samuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, and Benajah Buffum —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Nathaniel Sands, James Brown, Joseph Haviland, William Cromwell, & William H. Chase, from New York Yearly Meeting, Charles Hole from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and Enos G. Pray from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The Committee to examine the Testimony of West-Port Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved Friend Anna Macomber, at this time presented it; And being read & approved, the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to have charge of the Suit at Law brought against

Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting by the Separatists, presented the following Report viz —

"The Committee having charge of the suit at Law brought by the Separatists against Friends of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, respecting the title of Friends Meeting House at Fall River, now Report — that the question as to the amount of costs to be awarded in favor of Friends still remains open, the same having been carried before the Court, by appeal of the Separatists from the taxing of the Clerk — This question will probably be settled within a few weeks — We have procured a copy of the opinion of the Court on the merits of the case —

Newport 6 mo 11th 1853 —

On behalf of the Committee —

Stephen A. Chase"

Which is satisfactory — And the committee are released — And we appoint our Friends, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, & Micajah C. Pratt, to make a final settlement of the expense incurred in the defence of the suit, & report to this meeting when the service is accomplished —

Adjourned to meet again, at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Sixth Month 14th, the Meeting for Sufferings again assembled — Present at this time 31 members viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, Edward Wing, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr & Benajah Buffum —

Our beloved Friends, James Brown, Charles Hole, Enos Pray, William Cromwell, Joseph Haviland, and William H. Chase, who were present at our last meeting, are again acceptably with us; and we have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Francis T. King from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and David Sands from Newyork Yearly Meeting —

The Committee to take into consideration the subject of making a change in the time of holding some of our Quarterly

Meetings, at this time presented a Report; which being read, was refered to our next meeting; And the subject was continued under the care of the Committee for further consideration —

The Committee to consider whether any action may usefully be taken at this time, upon the Subject of Slavery, presented the following Report — viz — "The Committee on the subject of Slavery appointed in the Fifth month, have deliberated thereon, and are united in proposing that the Meeting for Sufferings should adopt the following minute —

On behalf of the Committee
Newport 6mo. 1853 — Stephen A. Chase"

And the minute being read and approved, was adopted by the meeting, and is as follows — viz —

The testimony of our religious society against the iniquitous system of Slavery as it exists in some parts of our highly favored Country, which has now for a long series of years been dear to Friends, and as they have believed has been incumbent upon them faithfully to uphold as a religious testimony, and to be borne on religious grounds, is we trust regarded by Friends as increasingly important — It is, and must be matter of grief and concern to Friends, that the tendency of the Legislation of our Country, should be in any way designed to foster, perpetuate or protect this system so full of evil; Or that under any contingency, any of us, or our fellow-Countryman, and especially those who are comparatively free from immediate connexion with it, should be required by such legislation, to aid in its support —

We believe that Friends are called upon, faithfully to maintain the testimony, to their abiding conviction, that Slavery in its nature and in its effects, is wholly inconsistent with the principles of our Holy religion, which teaches that "one is your master even Christ, and all ye are brethren" —

How different are its requirements from that Divine precept of our blessed Lord — "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets" —

A system thus characterized by evil, is so entirely opposed to our religious profession, that we cannot sanction or uphold it, in any degree without at the same time being unfaithful and inconsistent — Hence no compromises, no human agreements, no human enactments even, can render its support just or right —

We repeat, the testimony of the Society of Friends, against Slavery is a religious one, and is to be borne on religious grounds alone, with firmness, yet with meekness, in humility, in love, in faith and with a single eye to our duty and our accountability to Him who created us — with no view to wordly advantage, or to please men, but with singleness of purpose as unto God — We believe the testimony of Friends on this subject, consistently borne, is, and has been in the hands of an all-wise Providence, among the means by which as it is to be hoped, the evils of Slavery are to be done away — How important then that Friends be faithful herein — We are engaged earnestly to exhort all Friends, that they continue to bear this testimony unflinchingly before the world, and against the requirements of Slavery in all their ~~its~~ forms, as well as against every measure calculated to strengthen or perpetuate this lamentable evil —"

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned, to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo. 16th. 1853 —

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the same friends are appointed to Constitute a Meeting for Sufferings who composed it last year, with the exception of John Howland and Isaac Lawrence deceased. — Present at this time 27 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, John Osborne, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, John Meader, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy E. Collins, Beriah Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones Jr, David K Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, & Benajah Buffum —

Our beloved friends James Brown, Charles Hole, William Cromwell, David Sands, & Francis T. King, are also again acceptably with us —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this Meeting the ensuing Year —

It is concluded that the times & places for holding our Meetings be the same as last Year — Viz —

At Vassalboro, on 5th day after the 1st. 6th day in the 9mo. at 10 o clk. in the morning —

At Providence, on 4th day, before the 1st. 5th day in the 2mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

At New Bedford, on 4th day before the 1st. 5th day in the 12mo. at 11 o clk in the morning —

At East Greenwich, on 4th day before the 1st. 5th day in the 5mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting at 5 o clk in the afternoon —

The following Communication was received at this time from our Yearly Meeting, Viz —

"At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held on Rhode-Island in the 6mo. 1853 —

The Committee on the Correspondence Report, that they have taken the Subject refered to them by this meeting in relation to the correspondence with those Yearly Meetings, which for several Years have declined to receive our Epistles, into their solid and careful consideration, and that way has not opened at the present time, to prepare essays of Epistles to those meetings —

This Yearly Meeting is brought very solemnly to feel the importance of this conclusion, and a full & free expression was made, in which there was manifested a feeling of love towards our dear bretheren of those Yearly Meetings as professors of the same faith — engaged for the Supporof the same precious testimonies of Truth — And a fervent desire that the day might not be distant, when in the free flowings of gospel love we may be permitted again to resume and continue a Correspondence which we have ever highly valued, and which, as conducted under right influence tends to bind us together in the bonds of Christian fellowship.

With a desire that every opening for good, and for the restoration of harmony may be embraced, this Meeting now commits the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, that if in the wisdom of Truth way opens for it, it may address the several Meetings for Sufferings of Friends — manifesting to them the continued openness & love of this Meeting towards our bretheren of the two yearly Meetings referred to, and explanatory of the reasons for our not addressing them at the present time —

Extracted from the minutes —

Samuel Boyd Tobey — Clerk"

And this Meeting being desirous that no misapprehension may arise in other yearly Meetings in relation to the subject, appoints Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, John D. Lang, William C. Taber, John Meader, Samuel Boyce, Perez Peck, John Osborn, Rowland Green and George Howland Jr, to prepare as way opens for it essays of epistles to the several meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings, explanatory of the course pursued by our last Yearly Meeting, and giving the reasons for our not addressing the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and Ohio at that time —

Adjourned to meet again at Providence, on 3d day before the 1st 5th in the 8mo at 2 o clk in the afternoon —

At a Special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport the 17th of 6mo 1853 —

Present at this time 29 members —

We have again the acceptable company of our dear friends Nathaniel Sands, Joseph Haviland, David Sands, Charles Hole, & Francis T. King; and our beloved friend Nathaniel Crenshaw from Baltimore Yearly Meeting is also acceptably with us —

Through the Correspondents of our Yearly Meeting we have received the following Communications, Viz —

"London 3d of 6th month 1853 —

Dear friends — We wish particularly to call your attention to the enclosed document, counterparts of which, by direction of our Yearly Meeting which is just concluded, will be transmitted to its other Correspondents on the American Continent —

You are probably aware that our Yearly Meeting of 1849, under a strong feeling of religious duty, issued an address to Sovereigns and those in authority on the subjects of Slavery and the Slave trade, which address has, since that time been presented, through deputations of our body and by means of personal interviews, to most of the ruling powers in Europe, and subsequently in Brazil —

This portion of the service being completed, our Yearly Meeting was introduced into very weighty deliberation in respect to the further prosecution of this engagement, especially in reference to the United States —

Whilst bearing in mind the interest which our dear Friends in America, in common with ourselves, have long felt and still feel, relative to this our Christian testimony, yet considering that the concern originated as a distinct religious duty, resting on Friends in this land; and that in the prosecution of this labor of love, in each of its successive stages, help from above has been mercifully afforded, our Yearly Meeting did not feel released from completing the work in which it had been so long engaged, not doubting however but that the concern would obtain the cordial sympathy of our American Friends —

A copy of the minute recording this conclusion, we now enclose for the information of your Meeting for Sufferings — You will observe that four of our Brethren, much valued and beloved by us, some of whom have been already largely engaged in the work, are set apart to the service, on whose behalf we solicit your brotherly kindness — Whether any addition to the number will be made by our Meeting for Sufferings in virtue of the liberty entrusted to it by our Yearly Meeting, we know not, neither are we able to inform you at what period our dear friends will be likely to cross the Atlantic — In the mean time allow us to remind you how important it may be to the success of the mission that no announcement of it do previously appear in the public prints — As has hitherto been the case, so throughout the remainder of the engagement, we believe that the satisfactory carrying out of the concern as well as the safety and comfort of the messengers, will largely depend on their being favored quietly to move along step by step in simple dependence on the leadings of the Shepherd of Israel —

We are with love

Your friends

Cornels Hanbury
John Kitching

To David Buffum
Saml Boyd Tobey
John Meader
Stephen A. Chase

Correspondents for New-England Yearly Meeting"

At a Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London by adjournments from the 18th of the 5th month to the 28th of the same inclusive, 1853 —

The address on the Slave Trade and Slavery which was issued by this meeting in the Year 1849. has been again read, under a renewed feeling of the same religious concern in which it originated — During the four years which have since elapsed the address has been personally presented by special deputations on behalf of this meeting to most of the Sovereigns of Europe and to the Emperor of Brazil, as well as to many others in authority in each of the countries visited by these deputations, and this meeting thinks it right gratefully to record its reverent sense of the Divine assistance which has been graciously afforded in the prosecution of that part of the Service which has been already accomplished —

On seriously deliberating in the fear of the Lord upon that which may yet remain to be performed of the religious duty laid upon us as a Church in this matter, we believe that the time is come for presenting the Address to the President and others in power in the United States of America — Under a solemn sense of the weighty and important character of the mission, we accordingly appoint our beloved Friends Josiah Forster, William Forster, John Candler, and William Holmes, (of whom William Forster, and John Candler are ministers of the gospel, and Josiah Forster, and William Holmes, Elders in our religious Society) a deputation to proceed to America, and present the Address to the President, and other members of the Federal Government, to Governors of States, and others in authority in that Great Republic —

We encourage these our dear Friends to proceed in the prosecution of the important duty confided to them, in such manner as, in dependence upon the Wisdom which is from above, they may deem best, craving that the blessing of the Lord may rest upon the work in which they are about to engage, and commending them to the Christian kindness and consideration of those with whom they may have intercourse, and especially to the sympathy and help of our dear American brethren, members of our religious Society, who have so long labored in the same righteous cause —

The Clerk is directed to furnish the members of the deputation, with a Copy of the foregoing minute duly signed by him on behalf of this meeting —

In order that the important concern developed in the preceding minute may, with brotherly confidence be brought at as early a period as possible to the notice of our dear friends in America, and particularly of the respective Meetings for Sufferings in that land, we think it right to instruct the Correspondents in London of the several American Yearly Meetings to transmit copies of the said minute to their respective Correspondents in America, and we desire to commend our beloved friends composing the deputation in an especial manner to the kind Christian Sympathy and regard of the aforesaid Meeting for Sufferings —

And it is further referred to the Meeting for Sufferings in London to afford the deputation appointed under the foregoing minute, the requisite assistance in the performance of the service entrusted to them — And the said meeting is encouraged should the way open clearly for doing so, to make an addition to the deputation of one or more suitable Friends —

(Copy James Bowden)"

Whereupon we appoint Rowland Greene, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Long, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Taylor jr John Meader, David Buffum and John Osborne, a Committee to receive our dear Friends from London Yearly Meeting, when they shall arrive within our limits — And said Committee are requested to manifest to them, our feelings of deep sympathy with them, in the arduous & important mission in which they are engaged, and to render them such attention and aid, in the prosecution thereof, as may appear desirable & necessary —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence by adjournment, 2d of 8 mo 1853 —

Present 11 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Long, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Lemuel Jones, Stephen A. Chase, and William C. Taber —

The Committee to prepare as way should open for it, Essays for Epistles to the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings, at this time produced Essays for London, Dublin, & Ohio, as follows. Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting —

Dear bretheren —

At the late Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, the subject of attempting at that time, to continue the correspondence by Epistles with Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings claimed its weighty consideration, and after very careful deliberation resulted in not issuing Epistles to those Meetings the present year — The following minute was made on this occasion. Viz — "This Yearly Meeting is brought very solemnly to feel the importance of this conclusion, and a full and free expression was made in which there was manifested a feeling of love towards our dear brethren of those Yearly Meetings, as professors of the same faith, engaged for the support of the same precious testimonies of truth — and a fervent desire that the day might not be distant, when in the free flowings of gospel love, we may be permitted again to resume and continue a correspondence which we have ever highly valued, and which, as conducted under right influence, tends to bind us together in the bonds of christian fellowship — With a desire that every opening for good, and for the restoration of harmony may be embraced, this meeting now commits the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, that if in the wisdom of Truth way opens for it, it may address the several Meetings for Sufferings of Friends — manifesting to them the continued openness and love of this meeting, towards our brethren of the two Yearly Meetings refered to, and explanatory of the reasons for our not addressing them at the present time" —

In addition to communicating to you the foregoing minute, we believe it right for us to inform you of the position taken by those meetings towards New-England Yearly Meeting, for the past seven years — It is well known to you, that in 1845 a secession, to a limited extent, took place in this Yearly Meeting, of which information was communicated that year to London Yearly Meeting, together with a printed declaration prepared at that time of our unwavering and abiding faith in the doctrines of the gospel as professed by Friends, and also a statement of some of the facts and circumstances that lead to the secession — Since that period the course pursued by Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings towards New-England has not been in the usual order of our religious Society — The certificates of our Ministers addressed to them, when liberated to travel in the service of Truth have not been read or acknowledged — Certificates of removal to some of their Monthly Meetings have been refused to be received according to Discipline, and applications for such certificates on the part of their members to meetings within our limits have not been granted — Those who have been disowned from our Society in regular order within our limits have been permitted to sit in their Yearly Meetings, and other Meetings for Discipline, and the rights of membership accorded to them, and in the case of one individual at least, that of John Wilbu who was thus recognized by Phil^{a} the disownment had been carried to the Yearly Meeting by appeal, and the decisions of the inferior meetings confirmed one year previous to the secession — They have refused to acknowledge the body we represent, as the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, while this recognition has been fully made by all the other Yearly Meetings of Friends — Notwithstanding in these and other respects much inconvenience has been experienced and the rights of individual members withheld, it has been the earnest desire of our Yearly Meeting not in any way to become alienated from them, and it has continued annually to address them with Epistles expressive of our brotherly and Christian feelings towards them; but it is painful to us to inform you that these Epistles have not been read in those meetings — We make a statement of these facts not in a spirit of complaint but simply as information to you we invoke no action on your part unless in the pointings of Divine Wisdom you clearly see your way and feel called upon to move. - We are we trust engaged to suffer in patience and in humility, and to cultivate towards them that charity, which, as described by the Apostle, "suffereth long and is kind" - seeketh not her own - is not easily provoked - thinketh no evil" - beareth all things - believeth all things - hopeth all things - endureth all things" -

We salute you in the love of the gospel and with feelings of close christian and brotherly regard, we bid you farewell -

P. S. It is proper to inform you that the Epistolary Correspondence between the Womens Yearly Meetings of Ohio and New England; continues to be regularly maintained -

---

To the Meeting for Sufferings, for Dublin Yearly Meeting -

Dear friends -

It is we trust under renewed desires for the welfare of the Church, and for the continuance of that love and unity which is dear to us all, that we feel drawn to address you as brethren, fellow believers in the same blessed truths of the gospel, concerned for the promotion of those principles and testimonies, for the maintainance of which, our worthy predecessors, endured severe sufferings and cruel persecutions.

And we desire to manifest our renewed concern, that in watchfulness, and prayer, we may all seek to know what is required at our hands, in order for the increase of that precious love and unity throughout our Society, with which in former times, we have been mercifully favored - Among the means which tend to bind together in the bonds of brotherhood our portion of the militant Church, we have ever viewed the Epistolary Correspondence between the several Yearly Meetings, as having a very beneficial effect, when conducted under the influence of Truth - And at our last Annual assembly, we were brought renewedly to feel the value of this correspondence in the reading of the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings, which were truly strengthening, and encouraging - But the Yearly Meetings of Phil^{a} & Ohio having declined for the last seven years to acknowledge the receipt of our Epistles annually sent to them, our minds were again introduced into exercise on account thereof, and the subject of writing them the present year claimed our very serious consideration -

And we would now inform you, that after endeavoring as we trust in the fear of the Lord to discover the pointings of Truth in relation thereto, way did not open to address them by an Epistle the present year -

And the Yearly Meeting apprehending that the good of our Society would be best promoted by refering the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, this Meeting was accordingly requested, if in the wisdom of Truth it might be deemed adviseable, to address the several Meetings for Sufferings, and inform them of the result of our deliberations —

In coming to this conclusion we think it right to state, that our Yearly Meeting was actuated by no other motives, than such as it believed would tend to the best interests of our beloved Society — Friends were brought very solemnly to feel the importance of this decision, and a very full and free expression of love towards our brethren of those Yearly Meetings, as professors of the same faith was manifested, and fervent desires expressed that the day may soon arrive, when in the fresh flowings of the love of the gospel, the Correspondence with them, may be resumed to our mutual comfort and edification, that we may again witness the bonds of Christian fellowship and brotherhood strengthened thereby — And the aspiration of our hearts is that we may all be favored so to dwell in watchfulness and prayer, as, that the Great Head of the Church may be received as a healer of breaches, and a restorer of paths to dwell in —

Note, The Correspondence between our Yearly Meeting, of Women Friends and that of the Women's Yearly Meeting of Ohio, has not been interrupted, but has been continued in, as we trust, true christian fellowship —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting —
Dear friends —

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held in the sixth month of the present year, the subject of addressing Ohio Yearly Meeting at that time by Epistle, claimed its very solid and careful consideration, and way did not open then to issue a Communication of that kind — The Yearly Meeting was however brought into deep feeling on the occasion, believing that the practise of the different Yearly Meetings of annually saluting each other with Epistles, which practise we have regularly pursued towards Ohio, and all the other Yearly Meetings of Friends, was instituted in right wisdom and has been productive of much good in our religious Society, and the following minute was made, viz —

[For a copy of the minute see the Epistle to London Meeting for Sufferings pages. 185 – 186 —]

After communicating the foregoing minute we believe it right for us to add that the course pursued by our Yearly Meeting was in tenderness towards Ohio Yearly Meeting, and with a desire that nothing might be done by us, that should in any wise contribute to an unprofitable discussion, or to any excitement in your Yearly Meeting —

We desire that the reasons for our course may be rightly apprehended by Friends of Ohio Yearly Meeting, and that they may be assured that there is nothing existing with us, to prevent the resumption of a correspondence in the openings of right wisdom, and we fervently hope your Yearly Meeting may be favoured to be so united in itself, that the offering of an Epistle will be received as a token of our brotherly love, and accepted as from members of the same body, having the same Holy Head and engaged for the support of the same precious doctrines and testimonies of Truth — We offer you freely the Salutation of our love, earnestly craving that grace, mercy, and peace may prevail and abound among you

---

Which being read and approved; the Clerk was directed to sign them on behalf of this meeting, and forward them to the Meetings to which they are addressed —

The Committee are continued and as way opens for it they are requested to prepare essays for Epistles to the other Meetings for Sufferings, and present them at a future meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Vassalboro 1st of 9 mo 1851.

Present at this time 17 members — Viz — Joseph Metcalf, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber Samuel Jones, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, Benajah Buffum, & Caleb Jones —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friend Jeremiah A. Grinnell, from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The Committee continued to prepare as way might open for it essays for Epistles to the other Meetings for Sufferings, at this time presented essays for Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, & Indiana, as follows, viz — -

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Phila. Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held in the Sixth month of the present year the subject of addressing Philadelphia Yearly Meeting at that time by an Epistle, as had been its invariable practise for a long series of years, claimed the very weighty consideration of the Meeting, placed as it was under embarrassed circumstances from the fact that for the past seven years, Philadelphia had failed to acknowledge the receipt of any Epistle from New-England, and although after weighty deliberation, way did not open to issue an Epistle the hearts of Friends were warmed with feelings of Christian Love towards their brethren of Philadelphia, and the following minute was made upon the Subject Viz —

[See the minute in Epistle to London Meeting for Sufferings pages 185, & 186 —]

From this Minute Friends of Philadelphia will understand that New-England Yearly-Meeting has no wish to close its Correspondence with them — We desire that the blessed influences of the Spirit of our adorable Savior, the alone Head of the Church, may so abound both with you and with us that we shall be disposed to greet one another, as rightly moved thereto, with the language of comfort, of encouragement, of admonition or of counsel —

Towards you we still extend the hand of fellowship with desires that the restoring love of Christ may abundantly prevail with us all — we are your Friends & brethren —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting —

Dear friends —

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held in the Sixth month last the subject of addressing the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, and Ohio with Epistles, under existing circumstances, was felt to be one of much moment — and the inquiry was earnestly raised whether the cause of Truth would be best promoted by continuing or withholding such communications at that time — You are aware that since the Year 1845, when a secession took place in our Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia, and Ohio have failed to acknowledge the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, on whose behalf we now address you, and have made no response to any Epistles from us, altho' they have been regularly issued and forwarded to them — After very careful consideration, and under, we trust, a living concern to do the will of the great Head of the Church, no way opened to address Epistles to those meetings the present year — The Meeting deeply felt the importance of this conclusion, and expressed its sense of it in the following minute, Viz —

[See the minute as in previous Epistles —]

From this Minute Friends of New York will clearly understand there is no disposition on the part of New-England to withhold its correspondence from those meetings, but that we shall be ready to resume it whenever such a course shall appear likely to promote the good of the church — In the varied trials which have been our allotment for several years past the manifestation of unity and sympathy from all the Yearly Meetings of Friends, except the two above refered to, has been peculiarly precious to us — We have felt closely bound to you, dear brethren, in the fellowship of the gospel — We still crave your prayers that we may be preserved on every hand, and enabled to walk in the fear of the Lord which is the way of life —

Under a renewed and close feeling of Christian Love we now Salute you, earnestly desiring that you, with ourselves, while abiding in humility and simple dependence upon the unslumbering Shepherd, may be merci-fully favored to heed the invitation of the Apostle — "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to "Stand" — Farewell" —

P. S. The Correspondence between the Yearly Meetings of women Friends, of Ohio, and New-England is regularly Continued

---

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Dear friends —

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held in the sixth month last, the subject of issuing Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and Ohio at that time claimed its weighty and very careful consideration — It is known to you that since the Year 1845, when a secession took place within our limits, those Meetings have failed to acknowledge the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England on whose behalf we now address you, or to make any response to the Epistles which have been regularly addressed to them — Under these circumstances the question was a very solemn one, whether New-England would best subserve the Cause of truth, so dear to us all, by issuing Epistles to those Meetings, or by omitting to do so at that time — After very careful consideration and seeking humbly we trust, for right direction, way did not open to address them by Epistles — The Meeting felt that this decision was a very important one, departing as it was from its uniform usage hitherto towards those and all the other Yearly Meetings of Friends and recorded its sense in the following minute — Viz —

[See the Minute as in previous Epistles —]

From what we have now communicated, we trust you will perceive that there is no disposition on the part of New-England Yearly Meeting to close its Epistolary Correspondence with Philadelphia and Ohio, but on the Contrary, we shall be ready we trust to resume it when such a course shall appear likely to promote the good of the Church which is one body composed of many members, and which suffers with every suffering member — Your unity and sympathy which from time to time have been manifested during our seasons of peculiar trial have been precious, and strengthening to us, and under a fresh feeling of Gospel love we salute you, and remain your Friends and brethren.

P. S. The Correspondence between the Women's Yearly Meetings of Ohio and New-England is regularly continued —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of North-Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear friends —

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held in the Sixth month last, the subject of addressing Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings at that time with Epistles claimed the deliberate and solid consideration of the Meeting — It is known to you that since the year 1845. when a secession took place within our limits the particulars of which were then given to North-Carolina Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia and Ohio have not recognized the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, on whose behalf we now address you, and have failed to make any answer to the Epistles which have been regularly forwarded to them — Under these circumstances we believe that right direction was earnestly and humbly sought by our Yearly Meeting, and no way opened then to issue Epistles to them — The meeting deeply felt the solemn importance of this conclusion and recorded its sense of it in the following minute, Viz —

[See the Minute as in previous Epistles —]

From what has been now communicated, you dear friends, will clearly understand that New-England has no desire to withhold its correspondence from Philadelphia and Ohio, but that we shall be, ready to resume it, whenever such a course shall appear likely to promote the good of the Church — We earnestly crave the universal prevalence of harmony throughout our religious Society — and in now addressing you we feel afresh drawn to express our sense of the value of that unity which is founded on and lives in the Truth, and in which we greet one another as brethren, and are a comfort and strength one unto another — We have been very sensible of the preciousness and benefit of this unity as it has been at all times manifested by you towards us — We have been encouraged and strengthened by it in seasons of peculiar trial and need — We desire that all who profess to be followers of Christ, may at all times realize that He is the Head of the Church, that He can overrule all things to His own praise — That in Him are wisdom and might, dominion and power, and that in dwelling in Him, and in Him alone consisteth our safety —

With renewed feelings of gospel love, we salute you and bid you affectionately Farewell —

P. S. The correspondence between the Women's Yearly Meetings of Ohio, and New-England, is regularly continued —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting —

Dear friends —

It is well known to you, that since the time of the secession from New-England Yearly Meeting in 1845, the particulars of which were then communicated to Indiana Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings have failed to acknowledge the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England on whose behalf we now address you, and have made no response to the Epistles, which, as we trust in gospel love, have been regularly issued by our Yearly Meeting to them — At our annual Meeting in the Sixth month last, the subject of again addressing them at that time with Epistles claimed the solid and very careful consideration of the meeting, and after seeking as we believe earnestly and in humility for right direction, way did not open then to offer them Epistles —

This conclusion was felt to be a very solemn and important one and the Meeting was introduced into much exercise in relation to it, & expressed its sense thereof in the following minute viz —

[See the minute as in preceding Epistles —]

You dear friends, will clearly understand that there is no desire on the part of New-England Yearly Meeting to with-hold its correspondence from Philadelphia and Ohio — Its concern is to move in this matter under the direction of Best Wisdom in such manner as shall tend to promote the blessed cause of Truth, and to restore that unity which has unhappily been interrupted — We have felt the value of your sympathy with us in our various trials, and of your brotherly counsel, which from year to year have been conveyed to us through the Epistles from your Yearly Meeting to ours —

We greatly desire the uninterrupted continuance of this brotherly intercourse, in all that freedom which the gospel gives, and the love of the Truth imparts, that thus we may be the helpers one of another in the Lord —

We feel bound to you in the bonds and the love of the Gospel, and fervently crave for you and for us an unshaken establishment upon the one sure and immutable foundation, Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages —

With the Salutation of love we are your friends and brethren —

P. S. The correspondence between the Women's Yearly Meetings of Ohio and New-England is regularly continued —

Which being read and approved, the clerk was directed to sign them on behalf of this meeting, & forward them to the Meetings to which they are addresse

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New Bedford, 11 mo. 30th. 1853 —
Present at this time 15 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Lemuel Jones, David K. Akin, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr & Caleb Jones —

An Epistle from the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, was received at this time as follows viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings, of New-England Yearly Meeting —
Dear friends —

We have recd your brotherly communication of Eighth Month last, and the reading of it has introduced us into a lively feeling of sympathy with our beloved friends on the American Continent — As brethren making the same religious profession, and concerned for the maintainance of the same precious Christian testimonies, we feel them to be dear to us and our desires are afresh called forth that they and we may be engaged to dwell near to the Source of all good, and experience fresh supplies of Heavenly strength and wisdom, in order to our filling up that portion of service for the Lord, which as a Church, he has called us to —

We believe it to be essential to this religious engagement, for the advancement and spreading of the Truth, both among the members of our own Society and the world at large, that we should be a united people, practically exemplifying our cordial acceptance of the language of our Holy Redeemer to his immediate followers, "One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are bretheren" — As we come to experience this precious fellowship in Him, our Holy Head, some renewed ability would be known at times for harmonious Labour for the good of the Church, and the extension of his Kingdom in the earth

How needful then, dear friends, that all be concerned, both individually, and in our religious assemblies, to seek to be gathered to the place of true waiting, where the voice of the Heavenly Shepherd is heard, and where sure guidance and direction are mercifully granted — Such as are thus minded are favored to realize "the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" —

It has been cause of much concern to us that of later time, there have been various separations among our dear Friends beyond the Atlantic, and we can sympathize with those among them who are rightly engaged for the support of that comely order which is in the Truth, and the preservation of that precious unity which characterizes the true disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ — Whatever may be the trials these have to endure, whether within their own borders, or as affecting their religious communion with other portions of the body, we feel tenderly for them, and desire they may patiently endure all that may thus be permitted to come upon them, trusting that in the Lord's time, he that was promised to be the healer of breaches, will be known to arise for their help and deliverance, and again unite the different portions of the Church in love and harmony –

We can fully respond to the sentiment contained in your communication to us, as to the value of an Epistolary Correspondence being maintained between the several Yearly Meetings of Friends – We believe it to be "when conducted under the influence of Truth", a means blessed of the Lord to mutual edification and comfort, and may be regarded as an outward evidence of the existence between them of Christian fellowship and brotherly interest – With these feelings we cannot but desire that the time may speedily arrive when this fraternal intercourse shall be resumed where now it is suspended; and that all among us, walking by the same rule, and minding the same thing, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head even Christ, & the body having nourishment ministered from him, may largely increase, with the increase of God –

With a Salutation of love, we are your Friends and brethren –

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of the Standing Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, held in Dublin, the 3d of 10 mo. 1853 –

Samuel Bewley Clerk

Henry Russell
Correspondent"

Which being read, is very interesting and satisfactory to us –

The following communication was at this time received from a committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, Mass. viz –

"To the Meeting for Sufferings for Friends of New-England Yearly Meeting –

Dear friends –

We the undersigned having been appointed a Committee by Sandwich Monthly Meeting to look into the situation of the funds left in trust to the overseers of Sandwich Monthly Meeting for the use of Sandwich Preparative Meeting, and owing to some difference of opinion in relation to the management of the several legacies, we now ask you to examine the accompanying extracts from the wills of our late friends, Joseph Wing, and Sarah Hoxie of Sandwich, deceased, and also the extracts from our Monthly Meeting Minutes, and point out a proper course to be pursued in order fully to carry out the will of the donors –

South Yarmouth
11 mo. 3. 1853

Maltiah Gifford
Silas Baker
Stephen Dillingham
David Kelly
Prince G. Moore"

whereupon we appoint our Friends Perez Peck, David Buffum, Wm C. Taber, Edmund Chase & Micajah C. Pratt a committee to render such advice in the case as may appear necessary, and report to a future meeting

Several subjects connected with the welfare and best interests of our society, have at this time claimed our solid consideration, which were left to rest upon the minds of Friends —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence, 2mo. 1. 1854 —

Present at this time 21 members, viz — Rowland Greene, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, David H Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Junr. & Benajah Buffum —

The following Epistle has been received at this time from London Meeting for Sufferings, viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

Your Epistle of the 2d of 8 month last has been duly received and read amongst us — The information it contains of the very trying position in which you are placed, in reference to two of the Yearly Meetings on your Continent affected us much —

We do indeed deeply deplore, the absence of harmony and unity which is described in your epistle, and evidenced by the interruption of those various reciprocal proofs of Christian brotherhood, which have heretofore, so very generally prevailed in the different sections of our religious society —

Oh, that these things may teach us all, to humble ourselves before the Lord! —

May they lead us, to deep searching of heart, and to the earnest petition, that whether as individuals or as a gathered church, we may be honestly concerned by the Grace of God, to remove out of the way, every thing that obstructs the Lord's work amongst us — That, abiding in that true humility and lowliness of heart, in which it is the disciples meat and drink to do his Lord's will, and in which the believers are subject one unto another in love, you may continue patiently to endure these afflictions, and trust that in the Lord's time, deliverance will be brought about —

We can indeed, affectionately encourage you to continue to cherish towards those with whom you are brought into this painful situation, that "charity which suffereth long and is kind" — We believe, it is when trials of the character you describe, come upon us, that the force of the Scripture declaration may be verified in our experience, "In quietness and in confidence, shall be your strength" —

Although at the present time, sorrow and mourning may often be your portion, and the prospect of better and brighter days may not seem very nigh at hand, it may be nearer than you at present are aware of —

How tossed, and how troubled were the poor disciples of our Lord, when the sea rose high, and the tempest beat upon their vessel; and their master was asleep in the hindermost part of the ship — Then it was they cried unto him — Lord save us, or we perish, and he arose and said, "Peace be still," — and there was a great Calm —

In the fellowship of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ we affectionately bid you farewell, and are your friends and brethren —

Signed in and on behalf of our Meeting for Sufferings held in London, the 4th of the 11 mo — 1853 —

Robert Forster
Clerk"

Which has been read to our Comfort and encouragement —

The Yearly Meeting having requested the Meeting for Sufferings to give its attention to a suggestion made in the Report of the committee on education relative to books suitable to be used in imparting a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, and this Meeting having some months since requested a few Friends to consider the subject, the following communication is at this time received from them. Viz —

Pursuant to the request of the Meeting for Sufferings, we have given our attention, to the subject of books suitable to be used by Friends in imparting a knowledge of the contents of the Holy Scriptures, and it is our judgment that a watchful & judicious care is necessary in relation thereto, as there are divers catechisms published and in circulation, containing questions which elicit answers, as we apprehend, not always in accordance with the contents of the Sacred Volume, as exemplified in the teachings of Christ and his Apostles, and therefore inconsistent with the principles of Friends, the tendency of which would be to unsettle the young and tender mind — The following publications prepared and published by Friends in some of the other Yearly Meetings are in our opinion well adapted to the purpose, and may be used with profit and advantage — Viz —

Scripture Questions published by U. Hunt & Son Philadelphia —

Scripture Exercises published by E. Morgan & Co. Cincinnati Ohio — and J. Elder Richmond Indiana —

Friends Catechism published by Collins & Brother New York, and approved by their Meeting for Sufferings —

Questions for Bible classes published by S. S. & W. Wood. Newyork —

The First day School Assistant published by the Newyork Tract Association of Friends —

Questions & answers suitable for children, published by Thomas Kite late of Philadelphia —

"We believe upon inquiry, that all these works can be obtained, with the exception of "Friends Catechism", and "Questions and answers suitable for children", which are supposed to be out of print; but there is some prospect that the work last named will be republished —

Providence 1. mo. 31. 1854 —

Wm C. Taber
Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce"

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting —

This Meeting has been introduced into much concern, on account of bills which have been reported to Congress, for the establishment of additional Territorial Governments, with a provision whereby the area of our country into which Slavery may be introduced, will be extended — And feeling our minds at this time renewedly impressed with the evils attendant upon holding our fellow beings in bondage, and being desirous that our testimony against Slavery may be faithfully held up to view, we appoint our Friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Meader, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Metcalf, & John Osborne, to take the subject into consideration, and prepare an essay for a Memorial to Congress in relation thereto, & present it at an adjournment of this Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at 9 1/2 o'clk. tomorrow morning —

Fifth day Morning the 2nd met pursuant to adjournment —
Present 16 members —

The Committee to prepare an essay for a Memorial to Congress against the establishment of new Territorial Governments, with provision for the extension of the area of Slavery therein, presented one; as follows, viz —

"To the President, Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States —

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England respectfully showeth —

That being assembled at the present time for the discharge of those duties which as we believe are connected with the welfare of our religious body, and for the support of those principles and testimonies, which are inculcated by the teachings of our adorable Savior and his apostles, we have been deeply and sorrowfully affected in view of the bills now under consideration in Congress, by which in the establishment of new Territorial Governments it is proposed so to legislate, that the area of our Country into which Slavery may be introduced will be extended —

It is we trust well known to you that the Society of Friends throughout the world has long believed itself required as a religious duty to testify against Slavery — that no one can hold his fellow man in this bondage and remain a member of our Society, and that we bear our testimony against it on religious ground, irrespective of any political party or organization — We desire very respectfully to address the rulers of our land and to be permitted as a religious duty earnestly to plead with them not to sanction by any act of theirs, the extension of Slavery in our beloved Country! — We fervently crave that the injunction of our Savior, to do unto others as we would have them do unto us, may in all their legislation be felt to be of universal application to all classes of our fellow men, and that they may ever feel that it is righteousness that exalteth a nation —

We would not weary you with many words, but permit us to express our earnest desire and prayer, that you may seek in your deliberations, for that Wisdom which is from Him who hath made of one blood, all the nations of men to dwell on the face of the whole earth, so that acting in his fear, you may individually and collectively witness His blessing to rest upon you —"

Which being read and approved the Clerk was directed to sign it on behalf of this Meeting — And we appoint our Friends Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and Samuel Boyce, to forward a copy thereof to the President, and one to each of the Houses of Congress and Report to our next Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at East Greenwich, 3d. of 5 mo, 1854.

Present at this time, 13 members Viz — Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Beriah Collins, and Stephen A. Chase —

A Communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of North-Carolina Yearly Meeting, was received at this time, acknowledging the receipt of our Epistle of 9 mo. last, to that Meeting —

A Report from the Committee appointed in the 6mo. last to receive our Friends from London Yearly Meeting, and render them such aid as might appear desirable and necessary, was received at this time as follows. viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

In pursuance of our appointment by the Meeting for Sufferings, four of our number in conjunction with Friends under a similar appointment from the Meeting for Sufferings of the Yearly Meeting of NewYork, met our beloved Friends Josiah Forster, William Forster, John Candler, and William Holmes, delegates under the appointment of the Yearly Meeting, held in London, on their landing in our Country at Boston, in the 9 mo. last, and on behalf of Friends of New England, tendered to them our sympathy & Christian regard, with the offer of any assistance we could render them in the arduous and important mission which had led them to our Shores.

We remained with them while in Boston, and they were accompanied by members either of our Committee or that of NewYork, while within our limits —

This mark of attention, seemed to be all that was at that time required of us, or desired by them —

They left New England for the seat of our general Government and thence into the Western and Southern States, and we have since been informed by the three surviving members of the delegation that they were favored so far to accomplish the objects of their visit, as to have obtained an interview with the President of the United States, and interviews or Communication with the Governors of the Several States South and West. by all of whom they had been treated respectfully, when in the progress of their journey they were arrested by the sudden indisposition of our dear friend William Forster, and obliged to stop at an inn, in East Tennessee where they remained several weeks — There William Forster was confined by the Sickness which terminated his valuable life —

In this sickness as in his life, he gave proof of his devotion to his Divine Master, being made willing to Suffer, as well as to do his blessed Will — and here he laid down his head in peace — in peace with men, and in that peace with God which passeth all understanding —

Separated far as he was from his family and those he held most dear in life, a Stranger in a strange land — called to part with all, he was found willing and ready to obey the Summons, and we doubt not his experience was, as expressed in Apostolic language, "for me to die is gain" —

Thus passed from the labours of a life of simple dedication to the Cause of Christ, our beloved and honoured friend, and brother, and elder in the Church, — dying in the midst of his labours, his heart full of love to his fellow man, and that love manifesting itself in the self sacrificing devotion to the call of Christian duty, on behalf of a down-trodden and oppressed portion of the common family of man. And we doubt not through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, the crown immortal, laid up for all those who love His appearing, is given unto him —

We have since been favored with the company in New-England of the remaining members of the delegation, in the further prosecution of their work with the Governors of the Eastern States, and can testify to their steady and untiring devotion to the cause in which they were engaged —

With these dear friends we could tenderly sympathize in the bereavement which had in unerring wisdom been permitted to be their portion, and could rejoice that strength was mercifully afforded them to finish the work laid upon them —

A part of our number attended them on their embarkation from NewYork for their native land, on the 15th of last month, when having with much travel & privation accomplished their mission, they were favored to take their departure from our shores in health — and we hope they have been favored through mercy, to reach their native land in peace and safety —

East Greenwich 5th mo 3. 1854 —

Rowland Greene
David Buffum
Stephen A Chase
John D. Lang
Samuel Boyce
Samuel Boyd Tobey
John Meader"

And the attention shown our beloved friends from London Yearly Meeting, by the committee, is satisfactory —

The committee appointed to forward copies of the memorial prepared at our last Meeting, to the President, & to the two Houses of Congress, presented the following report, viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

In pursuance of our appointment, we forwarded duplicates of the memorial addressed to the President and Congress of the United States on the subject of the further extension of Slavery in the territories, prepared at the Meeting in the 2. mo — that for the Senate and President to Edward Everett, Senator from Massachusetts, and that for the House of Representatives, to Charles W. Upham a member also from Massachusetts — The duty of presenting the Memorial to the President, and to the Senate has been cheerfully performed, and we are assured that the one addressed to the House of Representatives, will be presented when a favorable opportunity occurs— We are informed by these members of Congress that they can heartily cooperate with Friends in their views as therein expressed—

The Bill against which the Meeting Memorialized, has since passed the Senate, and is pending in the House of Representatives, but we hope just and christian views on the subject of Slavery may so prevail in this body, that the proposed legislation may not be consummated

East Greenwich 5mo. 3d 1854— Stephen A Chase
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Samuel Boyce "

Which is satisfactory—

A testimony of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Elizabeth Wing, was received and read at this time; and the reading thereof has brought our dear friend very tenderly to our remembrance; and we appoint our friends Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Peleg Peck, and David Buffum to examine the memorial, and present it again at our next Meeting—

We appoint William Reynolds, Peleg Peck, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Micajah C. Pratt, John D. Gray, Edmund Chase, Timothy C. Collins, and Benajah Buffum to render such information and assistance as may appear desirable and necessary to Friends, with regard to obtaining suitable accommodations, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 10th. of 6mo. 1854

Present at this time 26 members, viz— Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, John Osborne, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Gray, Moses H. Reede, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Stephen Jones Jr, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglass, William Farr, William C. Taber, **Thomas Jones**, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, & Caleb Jones—

Our beloved friends Zebulon Weaver, Joel Battey, Lewis Haviland, & Richard J. Osborne, from Newyork Yearly Meeting; and John L. Eddy, Elijah Coffin, and Reuben L. Roberts, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, are acceptably with us at this time—

Satisfactory reasons for the absence at this time, of several of our members, have been received—

The Committee appointed at the request of a Committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, to advise with them in relation to the management of their trust funds, inform that attention has been given to their appointment, but not being prepared to report at this time they are continued —

The Committee to forward the Memorial prepared by this Meeting, to Congress, inform, that since our last Meeting, the Memorial has been laid before the House of Representatives, by Charles W. Upham, a member from Massachusetts; and they regret to say that the hope expressed by the Committee in their report at our last meeting, that the Bill would not pass the House, has not been realized —

The attention of our last Meeting having been turned to the evils attendant upon wars & fightings, and the inconsistency thereof with the precepts of the gospel, a concern was renewedly felt that our testimony against war, and against that Spirit which engenders Strife & contention, should be faithfully maintained, & held up to view; and the subject being again at this time before us, an essay in relation thereto, which has been prepared by one of our members, pursuant to a request made by our last meeting, has been presented and read; and we appoint our Friends, Stephen A. Chase, John D. Dean Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor jr, Samuel Boyce, & Joseph Metcalf, to examine the same, and present it at an adjournment of this meeting —

The Committee to examine the Memorial concerning our late beloved Friend Elizabeth Wing, at this time presented it, & being again read, it was approved; and the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

A testimony of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting, Endorsed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Hannah Dennis, was at this time received and read; and being approved, the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again on 3d day morning next at 8 o clk —

Third day morning the 13th met pursuant to adjournment
Present 30 members —

Our beloved Friends John L. Eddy, Lewis Haviland, Elijah Coffin, Reuben L. Roberts, and Richard J. Osborne, are again acceptably with us —

A testimony of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Stephen Nichols, was received; and being read and approved, the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to advise with a Committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in regard to the management of their trust funds, made the following Report — viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee appointed in the 11 mo. last, on the application of a Committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, for advice in regard to the management of certain trust funds, Report — That after having carefully examined the papers laid before them, & heard the representations of such of the Committee as presented themselves, they concurred in giving to the applicants the accompanying memorandum of advice, which was signed by all the members of the Committee which is submitted —

Newport 2 mo. 12th 1854 — On behalf of the Committee
Wm C. Taber"

"The undersigned a Committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings, on the application of a Committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, for advice in regard to the management of certain legacies, have examined the papers presented to us, and are united in recommending that the legacies left to the Overseers of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, by Joseph Wing, and Sarah Hoxie, for the benefit of Sandwich Preparative Meeting, should be managed under the direction of the Overseers of said Monthly Meeting, in pursuance with the minutes made by the Monthly Meeting, when the different trusts were accepted, and in accordance with the wills of the donors — They would also advise the annual appointment of an auditing Committee, to examine into the state of all the trust funds under the care of the Monthly Meeting — they to report to the Monthly Meeting, what the different trusts consist of, as well as their amount — the income received annually and how appropriated; also the balance remaining on hand in the several cases —

In all transfers of trust property, we consider it necessary, that the conveyances be signed by all the overseers of the Monthly Meeting —

Signed by — Perez Peck
Edmund Chase
David Buffum
Micajah C. Pratt
William C Taber"

Providence 2 mo 1. 1854 —
To Malatiah Gifford & others
Committee of Sandwich Monthly Meeting —

which being read, was approved; and the Committee are released from further service —

The Committee to whom was referred for consideration the Essay in relation to war, & that Spirit which engenders strife and contention, at this time presented it; and being again read, it was approved, and is as follows — Viz —

Dear Friends —

The present is a day of great excitement — Much that is calculated to draw the minds of the people into fellowship with the policy & maxims of the world is transpiring, — much against which it is necessary for the believer to watch.

We have felt our minds engaged, as we trust, in brotherly love, to address a word of exhortation to our members, to incite them to increased watchfulness, and, if so it may be, to offer a word of encouragement to all who love the cause of truth and peace, to seek to have their minds so stayed upon the unfailing arm of Divine Support, that the Lord may direct their hearts "into the love of God and into the patient waiting for christ" — 2 Thess. iii. 5 —

In your patience possess ye your souls, is an injunction of our blessed Lord; and the promise of the Most High, by the prophet, remains sure: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee" —

The fulfilment of this precious promise is to be witnessed only through watchfulness unto prayer — "What I say unto you, I say unto all, watch" — "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation" — These commands of our adorable Savior cannot be obeyed by the mind which is engrossed by the exciting and clashing elements of this world; and, while we are deeply sensible of our frailty, we may remember, for our strength and encouragement, the gracious declarations of our Lord; "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you; for every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened" —

But the natural man receiveth not these things; they are the things of the Spirit; they are foolishness unto him, neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned — From hence come the evils and contentions that abound —

Our blessed Lord declares that from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, wickedness, deceit, pride, foolishness, and all those other evils mentioned in the text, which afflict mankind; and the apostle James holds this language; "From whence come wars & fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts, that war in your members?" —

The humble believer in Jesus desires, and earnestly seeks to be redeemed from evil. He desires that the hard and stony heart may be taken away; that he may have a heart of flesh, — a heart to feel for others' woes, — a heart to sympathize with others sorrows; that, instead of hardness or malice towards any, pure love to all, may prevail within him, — love that worketh no ill to his neighbor, — love, that is, therefore, the fulfilling of the law.

"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use, and persecute you" — These commandments are practical in their nature, and are obligatory upon us.

After many years, in which the blessings of peace have, to a great extent, been enjoyed by the principal nations of the world, we are pained from across the Atlantic, with the sound of war, and war wide-spread, and desolating, in which several of the great nations of Europe are about to engage. "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood" — Already do we realize, in the history of recent events, the truth of this scripture. Already are cities laid waste, and the dwellings of their peaceful inhabitants destroyed. Already are multitudes of unoffending people subjected to the awful miseries of war. Not only men, who were, perhaps, in the peaceful pursuit of their daily avocations, but the tender mother, with her helpless infant, and innocent children, is driven, homeless, out upon the world, by the dreadful operations of war; or perhaps, they themselves, involved in the destruction of their dwellings, are left to form a part of the ruin which marks the spot, a short time only before their peaceful homes.

What are the feelings which the thought of scenes, such as these should excite in every humane breast? —

In the ranks of the invading army now, many there are who have left behind them fathers, who have looked to them, it may be, as the staff of their declining years; mothers, who have looked upon their sons with an affection & solicitude which only a mother feels; sisters, brothers, wives, — all these tender ties of life, left to obey the cruel behests of war; and multitudes of them, never to revisit their native land, but whose bones will be left to whiten a foreign soil — What ties are severed, what hearts are made to bleed, what hopes are forever destroyed, by the embodying and going forth to battle of every army.

These considerations relate to earth. There are other considerations, of infinitely higher and greater amount.

In the strife of battle what multitudes are hurried into eternity, it is greatly to be feared, in an unprepared state! — brought to stand before the judgment seat of Christ, suddenly, from the field of bloody strife, amid the displays of the unhallowed passions of rapine & bloodshed; — fresh, it may be, from the shedding of a fellow creatures blood —

What fearful considerations these to the reflecting mind! What an awful responsibility rests, upon the promoters, and the abettors of war!

We greatly desire that we all may be clear in these respects. Let us beware then, beloved friends, how we, in any manner or degree, become leavened into the spirit of war; — of how we partake in any measure of the excitement which war, now so unhappily prevailing, engenders — Let us seek earnestly to be preserved in consistency, as the followers of the Prince of Peace —

How should we long that every thing within us which can be joined to a warlike spirit should be removed! that we may take no part even in feeling, with the contentions, the victories, or defeats of war, except to deplore them, and to crave the speedy coming of that blessed gospel day, when, "they shall beat their swords into plough-shares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" —

It becomes the christian, when he hears or reads of the events of war, and of the bloodshed and misery it produces, to remember that they are the fruits of the carnal mind, which is enmity against God, "for it is not subject to the law of God neither indeed can be"; while, on the contrary, the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law" —

We feel a lively concern on this important subject, for our dear friends who are parents, or who have the care of youth — May you, beloved friends, feel your responsibility, in the sight of the All-seeing eye, faithfully to discharge your duty herein to the objects of your love and of your care —

Fathers are bound to look upon their children as tender plants, under their care, to be reared and trained for Heaven —

We beseech you in a prayerful spirit, to seek to impress upon their tender minds the great christian duty of love — Teach them to restrain their unruly passions, and to learn to forgive as they hope to be forgiven —

The precepts of the gospel are couched in plain and simple, yet beautiful and impressive, language; "But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in Heaven forgive your trespasses" —

The exhibition of military show and preparation should be set before them in their true light, and they early taught that they are parts of the anti-christian system of war, and should be considered in that light, and not as attractive displays for recreation and amusement —

Mothers, you too can do much in this holy cause, in your domestic circles, when your children are around you — How powerful and lasting often are the impressions made upon these, by the precepts and prayers of concerned mothers! — We beseech you, let these precepts be in a spirit of the gospel —

Speak to your children of a Savior's love — of the love of him whose advent was proclaimed by angels, with the blessed annunciation of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men" —

And oh! when you remember your sisters in a foreign land, who may even now be subjected to the vicissitudes of war, with all its train of evils and miseries, Speak to your children of these in words of pity and commiseration —

Enter into feeling for them, and make as far as you can, their case your own; — as if you, too, with those you hold dear, were the victims of the Cruelties of war —

To the lovers of peace of every name, so far as we may be permitted to speak to Such as these, we would hold the Language of encouragement, and Say "Follow peace with all men" — Shrink not from any Suffering to which a faithful Support of your testimony to the unlawfulness of war may subject you — Adhere stedfastly thereto, through evil report and through good report —

Remember that is through Suffering that the victory is obtained, and that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God, to the pulling down of Strongholds, bringing into Captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ —

The present is a day which calls peculiarly for faithfulness, — every one in the Sphere of life allotted him, in meekness and humility, and under the Guidance of the Prince of Peace, — to discourage the Spirit of war —

What though your efforts may appear feeble and unavailing? What though the war-Spirit may rise in many and varied forms to oppose you?

Remember, the cause of truth is mighty, and must prevail, — the Lamb and his followers will have the victory —

The clerk was directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the meeting
Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport. 16th of 6mo. 1854 —

Through the clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the following friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, James N. Fry, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker of Tiverton, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David R. Akin, Stephen A Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Charles Atherton, Walter Sawyer, Alden Sampson, William H. Robinson, Stephen Reede, Gilbert Congden, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Jesse Crossman, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn —

Present at this time 39 members —

Our beloved friends John L. Eddy, Lewis Haviland, Joel Battey, and Reuben L. Roberts are again acceptably with us —

We appoint Samuel Boyce clerk of this meeting the coming year —

It is concluded that the times & places for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8mo at 3o clk. in the afternoon —

At New Bedford on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 12mo. at 11o clk in the morning, —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo — at 3o clk in the afternoon; And on 3d day before the 1st 5th day in the 5mo. at 3o clk in the afternoon —

At Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5o clk in the afternoon —

The Yearly Meeting having requested this meeting to give its attention to the printing of those Memorials of deceased Friends, which have been received since the last publication of Memorials by this meeting; we appoint William C. Taber, and George Howland Jr, to examine and revise the same, and to cause an edition of 3000 copies to be printed — And they are requested to distribute 2000 copies thereof among our Quarterly Meetings, & report to this meeting when the service is accomplished —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 16th of 8mo. 1854 — Present 33 members viz — Estes Newhall, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds John Meader, John D Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Abraham Barker, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Charles Atherton, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed,—

Our beloved friends Joel Batty from New York Yearly Meeting, & John L. Eddy from Indiana Yearly Meeting, are again acceptably with us—

Satisfactory reasons, for the absence at this time, of several of our members, are received—

The committee to examine, revise, and print, the memorials of deceased friends, received by the Yearly Meeting, since the last publication of memorials, report that they have attended to their appointment, and have caused an edition to be printed and distributed, in accordance with the request of this meeting—

This meeting being informed that a family of those in Norway who profess with Friends, have come to this country, with a view of settling within the limits of our Yearly Meeting, and a certificate of membership issued by the two months meeting at Stavanger, recommending them to the Christian care of Friends in this land having been read at this time; we appoint our friends John D. Lang, David Buffum, John Meader, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Taylor Jr. & John Osborn, to take the subject into consideration, & report thereon at our next meeting—

Our Yearly Meeting having requested this meeting to ascertain whether a change in the place of holding its sessions would in any way invalidate the title to its trust property, we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John Osborne, David Buffum, Samuel Taylor Jr, John D. Lang, Nathan Breed, Stephen A. Chase, George Howland Jr, William A Robinson, and Samuel Boyce, to make careful legal inquiry in relation thereto, & report to our next meeting—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in New Bedford, 6th of 12 mo 1854—

Present at this time 21 members viz— David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Abraham Barker, David K. Akin, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Charles Atherton, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey. John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed—

Satisfactory reasons are assigned for the absence of several of our members at this time—

The committee to whom was refered for consideration, the subject of the arrival of a family from Norway, who have brought a certificate of membership from the two months meeting at Stavanger, report; that they have conferred together, and are united in proposing that the following minute be forwarded to London Meeting for Sufferings — viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting —

Dear friends —

Application having been made to this meeting, by Salem Monthly Meeting for advice respecting a family from Norway, who have come to this Country, with a view of settling within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, who have produced a certificate issued by the two months meeting at Stavanger, certifying that the heads of said family are members of that meeting, & recommending them to the Christian care of Friends in North America, and the certificate having been read, much feeling of tenderness & sympathy were manifested on their account —

And it appearing desirable that some more definite knowledge should be obtained, respecting the position in which those who profess with Friends in Norway stand in relation to London Yearly Meeting, and how in case of removal they are to be recommended to us, this meeting with a view of obtaining further information in relation thereto, directs the Clerk to forward to London meeting for Sufferings a copy of the foregoing minute" —

Which being approved, the clerk was directed to forward said minute to that meeting, & sign it on our behalf —

The following acceptable communications were received at this time from the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting, viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

Your communication of 9 mo. last having failed to reach our meeting at an earlier day, has been at this time produced and read, and directed to be entered on our minutes — Sorrowful as the interruption of the correspondence, between your Yearly Meeting, and those of Philadelphia & Ohio, has been felt to be at the present time, as well as on former occasions, yet on the part of your Yearly Meeting, for the cause set forth in your communication, we cannot call in question the wisdom by which it has been led to suspend its correspondence at the present time

We however most fully unite with you in earnestly desiring that the day may not be distant, when the correspondence may be again renewed in that true feeling of gospel love and fellowship, which becomes brethren professing the same Christian faith, and bound for the support of the same precious testimonies; with feelings of affectionate regard we are your friends—

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at White-Water Indiana, by adjournment the 3d day of the Tenth month. 1854—

David Hunt. Clerk

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New-England Yearly Meeting—

Dear friends—

We hereby offer to you the Salutation of Love and Fellowship, and believe it may be proper to inform you of the proceedings, had by our Yearly Meeting recently held, in relation to the Separation in Ohio Yearly Meeting:— the painful intelligence of which, was received at that time by us—

Documents from both parties claiming to be Ohio Yearly Meeting were addressed and sent to ours; whereupon our Yearly Meeting refered the consideration of the said documents to a solid Committee of men and women friends, instructing them to peruse the same, and obtain such other evidence in the case as may be had, and make report of their judgment, as to which of the said bodies should be recognized as Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends; and the communications thereof read accordingly— Their report—(a copy of which we enclose herewith) was unanimous that the body in Ohio of which Jonathan Binns, and Jane M. Plummer were clerks, should be so recognized; which was sanctioned without dissent by a very general expression of unity, and adopted as the judgment of the Yearly Meeting; whereupon the communications signed by Jonathan Binns, and Jane M. Plummer, as clerks were read accordingly and epistles addressed to the body which they represent as the true Ohio Yearly Meeting; at the same time correspondence with the body of which Benjamin Hoyle is clerk was declined—

We believe that our Yearly Meeting in taking this step, was deeply sensible of the importance thereof, & our hearts were affected with much sorrow at the existence of a state of things which made such a step necessary— But much as we have felt our responsibility, we are well satisfied with our decision, and entertained no doubts of its propriety for us— Renewing our salutation of brotherly love, we remain, affectionately your Friends—

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of friends, held by adjournment on the 3d day of the 10 month 1854—

David Hunt

Clerk

The Report refered to in the foregoing Epistle, is, as follows— viz—

"At Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Whitewater, in Wayne County, Indiana; on Fifth day, the 28th of the 9mo. 1854 –

Two communications in writing, addressed to this meeting, from two distinct bodies each claiming to be Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at the usual time and place this year, are now received and laid before this meeting – By this, and other evidence the meeting has come to the Knowledge, (affecting our hearts with much sorrow) that a separation in that Yearly Meeting has taken place, and that two meetings, assuming that name and Character, have been held; Whereupon this meeting in view of the painful importance of the case, unites in refering the Consideration of the papers before us to the following named Friends, who are desired to peruse them, and obtain such other evidence in the case as may be had, and make written report to next sitting of their judgment, as to which of said bodies should be recognized by this meeting, as Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, and the Communications thereof read accordingly, viz –

[Here follow the names of the committee]

Ninth Month. 1854 –

Report –

The committee to whom was refered for consideration the communications received from the two bodies, claiming to be Ohio Yearly Meeting; Report, that we have met, and carefully read all the papers, in which are stated by the parties respectively, the causes and proceedings of the separation; And we have heard furthermore, the testimony of two members of our own Yearly Meeting of ministers and Elders, who were personally present at Ohio Yearly Meeting, and were eye and ear witnesses to what was done & said; And one, from that in North-Carolina, who was present most of the time; And after deliberating on and fully considering the case, upon the evidence aforesaid, we are united in judgment, that the meeting of which Jonathan Binns, and Jane M. Plummer, were Clerks, was, and is, the meeting which should be recognized, as Ohio Yearly Meeting, by ours; and the Epistles & Communications of that body received, read, and responded to, accordingly –

We are furthermore influenced to come to this judgment by the following, amongst other reasons –

1st, Ohio Yearly Meeting has for several years past, by the influence of the party therein which now is organized into a separate body, with Benjamin Hoyle as its clerk, refused and prevented the reading of the regular Epistles addressed to that Yearly Meeting by the Yearly Meeting in New-England, and refused and prevented the answering of the same, and all Correspondence with the latter Yearly Meeting, without good and sufficient reasons, as we believe, declining religious fellowship with the body of Friends in New-England, with which we are in correspondence; and refusing to receive and recognize ministers from the limits of that Yearly Meeting, who have been travelling as such, in the service of truth, in Ohio, with regular certificates and minutes—

2nd They have recognized as members of our Society, and permitted to have a seat in the Yearly Meeting, and other meetings for Discipline, persons who had been disowned in New-England; in both of which cases our friends who have appointed Jonathan Binns as Clerk, have constantly protested against such proceedings, and earnestly labored, but without effect, to maintain the fellowship and good order of our religious society; and have finally felt themselves impelled, after much suffering and remonstrance against the disorders aforesaid, continued throughout several years, as aforesaid, to appoint a Clerk, and proceed with the regular business of the Yearly Meeting, without the unity of that party, who caused the disorders complained of, and who recognize Benjamin Hoyle as their clerk—

The aforenamed disorders in the Yearly Meeting have also been the occasion of confusion, and difficulties in some of their Subordinate Meetings, by which the rights of members in New-England have not been properly regarded; the unity of Society has been greatly impaired, and its peace and harmony sadly broken—

Moreover, our Yearly Meeting, in its Epistles to Ohio Yearly Meeting, has earnestly and affectionately entreated that Yearly Meeting to resume their correspondence with New-England Yearly Meeting, thereby recognizing the true body with which we correspond, as such; and they have also been earnestly and plainly warned of the probable consequences of such irregular and disorderly proceedings as aforenamed, by a Committee of Conference of five of our American Yearly Meetings, in their address to Friends—a copy of which was sent to Ohio Yearly Meeting by ours, with our Epistle, by a deputation from our Yearly Meeting; but the reading of which address was refused by the party now claiming to be Ohio Yearly Meeting with Benjamin Hoyle for its clerk—

Wherefore, for the foregoing, and other reasons, which for brevity's sake we omit, we propose that our Yearly Meeting decline epistolary correspondence with the body last named as with a regular Yearly Meeting of Friends; at the same time entertaining the desire that the members thereof, may return again into the unity & fellowship of Friends, which they have lost, and become again laborers together with us, and our brethren in America, and Europe, in the faith, and love and fellowship of the gospel—

Jacob Elliott, William Pearson,
Elijah Coffin, Harvey Derbyshire.

George Carter,
Robert Furnas,
John Pool,
Joel Dixon,
William Crossman,
Joseph Cox,
Nathan C. Hoag,

Daniel Williams.
Miriam Carter,
Harriet Steer,
Naomi Coffin,
Anna Thornburgh,
Delila Stubbs,
Jemima Burson,

Ninth Month, 29th. 1854 –

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, is very fully united with by the meeting –

Whereupon the Communication received from Ohio Yearly Meeting, signed by Jonathan Binns as Clerk, was read, and refered to the attention of our Committee on Epistles –

Extracted from the Minutes,

Elijah Coffin, Clerk"

The foregoing communications being read, much Sympathy was manifested for those, who have been engaged for the promotion of harmony and unity, and for the support of right order in our religious Society; and we appoint our Friends, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, and Joseph Metcalf, to take the Subject into consideration, and if way opens for it, prepare an essay for an epistle to Indiana Meeting for Sufferings, & present to our next Meeting –

The committee to make inquiry whether a change in the place of holding the Sessions of our Yearly Meeting, would in any way invalidate the title to its trust property, inform they have given attention thereto; But not being prepared to make a full report at this time, they are continued; and they are desired to report at our next Meeting –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 1 mo. 31. 1855 –

Present at this time 30 members, Viz – Rowland Greene, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Abraham Barker, Thomas Harkness, David K. Akin, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Charles Atherton, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, and Nathan Breed –

The committee to consider the subject of addressing an Epistle to Indiana Meeting for Sufferings, at this time presented one; which being read and approved, the clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf, & forward it to that Meeting —

The Epistle is as follows viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

It is we trust in a measure of the Love of Christ that we are concerned to address you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 10 mo. last, accompanied by an extract from the minutes of your Yearly Meeting furnishing us with an account of the separation in Ohio Yearly Meeting, and the proceedings of your Yearly Meeting in relation to it —

We can fully respond to the sentiments expressed in your Epistle & say, "Our hearts were affected with much sorrow at the existence of a state of things, which made such a step necessary" —

We are sensible that it is no light matter for Yearly Meetings to be thus brought to the necessity of sitting in judgment upon the conclusion and doings of those who have been regarded as bretheren of the same faith, who unhappily can no longer walk together, and to decide when a separation takes place, which body is the true Yearly Meeting of Friends, and entitled to be recognized as such by their bretheren —

But we are comforted in the assurance that there is still graciously continued to the Church the Spirit of true discernment as it is humbly sought of Him who is for a Spirit of judgment to him that setteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate —

We believe that your Meeting, and your Yearly Meeting have from time to time been favored to arrive at correct conclusions in regard to the sorrowful state of things in our society, and that the course pursued by your Yearly Meeting, and Meeting for Sufferings, has exerted a healthy influence in the Society at large, to the strength and comfort of many —

And it is our earnest desire that in these days of trial of which you may have to share, that all our dear friends with ourselves may be clothed with christian humility and in humble dependence upon the great head of the church, be favored with clear discernment, in those things connected with her peace & prosperity, partaking largely of the love, and fellowship of Christ —

A communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, was received at this time, which together with the minute accompanying it has been read; and they are as follows viz —

"To the meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

We think it right to inform you of the course our Yearly Meeting has adopted in regard to the late separation in Ohio Yearly Meeting, and have therefore enclosed to you a copy of its minutes and proceedings on that occasion — They will also inform you of a small secession which has taken place within our limits —

With the salutation of love we are your Friends —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting for Sufferings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 18th of 12 mo. 1854

by Richard H. Thomas — Clerk"

"At a Yearly Meeting of Friends held in Baltimore, for the Western Shore of Maryland, &c, by adjournments from the 23rd of the tenth month to the 26th of the same, inclusive, 1854 —

Tenth Month 23rd —"

"Two Epistles were now produced, both purporting to come from Ohio Yearly Meeting, one signed by Benjamin Hoyle, as Clerk, and the other by Jonathan Binns as Clerk, thus affording evidence of the painful occurrence of a separation having taken place in that Yearly Meeting —

Whereupon the meeting concluded to appoint a Committee to examine and read the Epistles, and make such a careful examination of the whole subject as would enable it to recommend to the Yearly Meeting the course proper to be pursued by it in relation to the Epistles, and the bodies from which they emanate — Viz — Hugh Balderston, Richard H. Thomas, Jonah Sands, Isaac Moore, Joseph Ballance, William Waring, William A. Thomas, Bond Valentine, John Irwin, N. C. Crenshaw, John Hare, and George F. Terrell. — Who are left at liberty to unite with a similar Committee of Women Friends, if they should appoint one, and were directed to report to a future sitting —"

Names of the Women's Committee;, Dorothy Hopkins, Margaret Cheston, Julia Valentine, Elizabeth R. Balderston, Lydia Waring, Elizabeth Smith, Hannah Bates, Sarah Sands, Mary Wright, Mary Irwin, Eliza M. Thomas, Zellah Balance, Eliza H. Crenshaw, and Hannah Bates —

Report —

The joint Committee to whom was refered the Epistles, coming from the two bodies, each claiming the name and authority of Ohio Yearly Meeting; Report, that they have carefully examined and considered the respective documents, and we, the undersigned members of the Committee are united in the conclusion that the Epistles signed by Jonathan

Binns, and James Plummer as Clerks, should be received and acknowledged as coming from Ohio Yearly Meeting with which we have unity; and that the Epistles signed by Benjamin Hoyle and Rachel C. Patterson should not be received, inasmuch as we have sorrowfully to believe that they have been issued by a body with whose proceedings we cannot have unity —

In coming to this conclusion the Committee have believed it right to take a review of the position in which Ohio Yearly Meeting has been placed by a portion of its members —

They have refused to receive and acknowledge the Epistle from New-England Yearly Meeting for seven or eight years —

They have subverted the established order of Society by an abridgement of the rights of members, by refusing to receive the Credentials issued by Meetings belonging to another Yearly Meeting —

They have conferred or attempted to confer upon individuals, privileges which they had forfeited in their own Meetings, and to sustain them in assumed rights to which they are not entitled, by allowing them to sit in their Meetings for Discipline —

They have persevered in the neglect and violation of these important and vital practises and usages of our Society, which are essential to our prosperity as a people, although they have been earnestly and affectionately entreated, in the Epistles from our own Yearly Meeting, and by their Brethren of Five Yearly Meetings on this continent, to return to our established order —

They have refused to hear an Address adopted and sanctioned by our Yearly Meeting, and four other Yearly Meetings, and sent them by a committee of this Yearly Meeting, warning them of the consequences which appeared to us inevitable, and beseeching them to unite with other Yearly Meetings in pursuing that course which we believed could alone prevent results that would be deeply to be deplored —

And finally a seat in the Minister's Gallery in the Yearly Meeting of the present year was allowed Thomas B. Gould, who acted as Clerk to the Separatists in New-England in 1845, though at that time disowned by the Society, thus virtually owning and acknowledging the seceders of New-England Yearly Meeting; and we may add that after the appointment of Jonathan Binns as Clerk, &c, the said Thomas B. Gould, became the companion and associate of the body of which Benjamin Hoyle is Clerk —

It will not be denied that these departures from the discipline and usages of our Society, and these breaches of unity, as well as others which might be mentioned, were committed by the body who have now Benjamin Hoyle for Clerk; and that the Friends who have placed Jonathan Binns at the Clerk's table have steadily and earnestly advocated the ancient usages of our Society, and the course indicated by the discipline, and so affectionately and earnestly recommended by our Yearly Meeting, and others; that they have borne the lamentable state of disorder, which had existed for several years, as long as they could do so, without identifying themselves with the members of a meeting which had been testified against by all the Yearly Meetings of Friends except their own and Philadelphia, and not acknowledged by any; that believing that the time for their release had come, they were favoured to be found "the Friends of good order, and the supporters of our Christian doctrines and testimonies, and discipline," and therefore they truly constitute Ohio Yearly Meeting, and are justly entitled to all the privileges which belong to that body—

But whilst we cannot unite with the body of which Benjamin Hoyle and Rachel E. Patterson are clerks, we earnestly desire for the members who are now attached to it, that they may put away from them all that separates and again come into that unity which formerly existed and is now so seriously interrupted—

Dorothy Hopkins,
Sarah Sands,
Margaret Cheston,
Mary Wright,
Julia Valentine,
Mary Irwin,
Eliza M. Thomas,
Eliza H. Crenshaw,
Hannah Bates,

Hugh Balderston,
Richard H Thomas,
Jonah Sands,
Isaac Moore,
Wm A. Thomas,
Bond Valentine,
Jno. Irwin,
John Hare,
Nathl C. Crenshaw.
Geo. F. Terrel.

Tenth month 24th—

Which having been read, and fully considered, is approved by the meeting, Whereupon the Epistle signed by Jonathan Binns, as Clerk, was read and referred to the Committee on Epistles—

We feel it a duty to our absent members and to our Friends of other Yearly Meetings, to inform them that after the adoption of the above minute, and the reading of the Epistle from Ohio Yearly Meeting, when the meeting adjourned, six Friends, five of whom were from Nottingham Quarterly Meeting, kept their seats, and have since absented themselves from our Meetings— We are informed that they have, in connexion with six women

Friends, all from Nottingham Quarterly Meeting, attempted the organization of a Yearly Meeting, and that they have addressed Epistles to other Yearly Meetings in the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in Baltimore —

In this disorder, they are associated with and encouraged by four members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, one of whom is a minister, and another an elder, with minutes directed to Baltimore Yearly Meeting —

Taken from the Minutes —

Richard H Thomas
Clerk"

And the clerk is directed to acknowledge the receipt of said communications by forwarding to that Meeting a copy of this minute —

The committee to make inquiry whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting, would in any way invalidate the title to our Trust property, Report — That they have attended to their appointment, and have consulted eminent Counsel, and obtained a written opinion, which has been read at this time — And the Committee are continued to make further legal inquiry in relation thereto, and report to our next meeting —

A Communication from Nantucket Monthly Meeting is recd at this time as follows Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings for New England Yearly Meeting of Friends —

It was proposed and united with at this time to address the Meeting for Sufferings, relative to the property of this Meeting, now held in the hands of the Separatists and others — The following address to that body being read and approved, the clerk is directed to make such corrections, as are necessary, sign it on our behalf, and forward it to that Meeting — Extracted from the minutes of Nantucket Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 1 mo. 25th 1855 —

Matthew Barney Clerk

Dear friends —

Deeming the time fully come for some action in regard to the property of this Meeting now held by the Separatists and others, Friends have concluded again to call the attention of your body to the subject, by a few facts, asking such advice and assistance, as the case may seem to require —

There is now we believe in the hands of one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this Commonwealth; about 180 Dollars, that being the dividend of the assetts, of the Manufacturers and Mechanics Bank of this town, upon a deposite originally belonging to Nantucket Monthly Meeting – The certificate of the amount is in the hands of the Separatists –

There is also in the hands of the Commissioner of the Citizens Bank of this place about 250 Dolls, that being the amount of three Shares of said Bank, at the closing of its affairs, and which, with the above was a part of a bequest to Nantucket Monthly Meeting, by a member of this Meeting –

In the hands of an individual executor to an estate, is the sum of two hundred dollars, a legacy left to this meeting by the husband of an individual who attended our meeting, though not in membership with us, who deceased about two years ago – We have been informed, in two of the above mentioned cases, that they await the action of Law –

In the institution for Savings in this place, is the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars which is a part of the above mentioned bequest –

There are also in possession of other individuals various sums of money and property which with the above named are unavailable, and unproductive to us or either party, and will ultimately be lost to both, unless the Court takes some action in the matter –

Friends believing that the same principles of Law that governed the decisions of the Court in case of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, will apply to all the branches of New England Yearly Meeting, within this State, we earnestly desire that such measures may be pursued, as will ultimately restore to us the property to whom it rightfully belongs, and thereby relieve us from our pecuniary embarrassment as a body, though Friends are united in willingness to leave the whole matter to your judgment

We would also here state, that several opportunities have been had by some of the members of this meeting, with some of the Separatists, with a view to settle the whole matter amicably, without any Success –

Signed on behalf of Nantucket Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 1 mo. 25th 1855 –

Matthew Barney – Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our friends William C. Taber, George Howland jr, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, Perry Peck, and Samuel Boyce, to consult and advise with Friends of that Monthly Meeting, in regard to the property, and report to a future meeting – And the clerk is directed to forward to Nantucket Monthly Meeting, a copy of this minute –

At a special Meeting of the Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence, 9th of 3 mo 1855 – Present at this time 20 members, viz – (Rowland

Greene, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John L. Young, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, William C Taber, Charles Atherton, William A. Robinson, Richard Battey, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

The Clerk informs that he has recd the following communication, and in accordance therewith, he has called this Meeting —

"To the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee for the management of the Boarding School having concluded to propose for the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings a vacation of the School for a time, wilt thou please call a Meeting of that body to be held at Providence, on 6th day the 9th of 3 mo at Friends Meeting House, 11 o clk. for the purpose of considering the proposition —

Providence 2 mo 27. 1855 —

Rowland Greene
John Meader
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Wm A. Robinson
David K. Alkin
Nathan Breed"

Wm C. Taber
Geo. Howland Jr
Thomas Harkness
Charles Atherton"

Satisfactory reasons are assigned for the absence at this time, of several of the members of this meeting —

An Extract from the minutes of our Boarding School Committee was received at this time as follows. viz —

At a Meeting of the School Committee held at the School House, 2 mo. 27th 1855. The following minute was adopted —

The present condition of the Institution, in its several relations, and especially its pecuniary situation, coming under consideration at this time, it is the sense of this Committee after very carefully, and seriously weighing the matter, to propose to the Meeting for Sufferings, to vacate the School from the close of the present term, until the time of our next Yearly Meeting, with a view to a further continuance of the same if the Yearly Meeting approve;

And the Clerk is requested to furnish the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, with a copy of this minute —

from the Minutes.
George Howland Junr
Clerk for the day —

And, after a time of solid deliberation thereon, in which this meeting has endeavoured to give the Subject that consideration which its importance demands. it is concluded to accede to the proposition of the School committee; and the clerk is directed to furnish the Committee with a copy of this minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 1st of 5 mo. 1855 —

Present at this time 17 members. viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Davis, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, **Thomas Harkness**, Stephen A Chase, William C. Taber, Alden Sampson, William A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Samuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

The Committee Continued with a view of obtaining further legal opinion, whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting, would in any way invalidate the title to our trust property, inform that attention has been given to the Subject; But not being prepared to report further at this time, they are continued, and are desired to report at our next meeting —

It appearing from information received from London Meeting for Sufferings through one of their Correspondents, that the Meetings of those professing with Friends in Norway, are not in a state of disciplinary organization so as to issue certificates of removal, which can be received by our Monthly Meetings, this meeting is united in judgment that it would be safe for Salem Monthly Meeting to consider the presentation of the Certificate from the two months meeting at Stavanger which has been laid before that Meeting, as a request from the persons in whose favor it is drawn, to be received into membership; And this meeting recommends that the Monthly Meeting proceed accordingly; and the clerk is directed to furnish that Monthly Meeting with a copy of this minute —

We appoint David Buffum, Edmund Chase, Perez Peck, Alden Sampson, William C. Taber, and Micajah C. Smith, to render such information and assistance, as may appear desirable and necessary to Friends, with regard to obtaining suitable accommodations while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 9th of 6 mo. 1855 —

Present at this time 40 members, viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Davis, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas

Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Charles Atherton, Alden Simpson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Jesse Crossman Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

Our beloved Friends Thomas Willis, & Nathaniel Sands, from NewYork Yearly Meeting; Enoch Lewis from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; and David Hunt, Isaac Jay, & Luke Thomas from Indiana Yearly Meeting are acceptably with us at this time —

The Committee continued with a view of making further legal inquiry, whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting, would in any way invalidate the title to our trust property, inform they have given attention to their appointment; but not being prepared to report further at this time, they are continued —

A testimony from Greenwich Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Thomas Anthony; and one from Litchfield Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Moses Wadsworth were received at this time; and being read and approved, the clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

The clerk was directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before the Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting —
Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 13th of 6mo 1855 —

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, with the exception of our late friend Abraham Barker deceased.

Present at this time 37 members —

Our beloved friends Thomas Willis, David Hunt, Isaac Jay, and Luke Thomas, are again acceptably with us —

We appoint Samuel Boyce clerk of this meeting for the coming year.

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8 mo — at 3o clk. in the afternoon; and on 3d day after the 2d 6th day in the 11 mo at 2o clk. in the afternoon —

At Providence on 3d day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo — at 2o clk in the afternoon, and on 3d day before the 1st 5th day, in the 5 mo — at 2o clk in the afternoon — And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5o clk. in the afternoon.

The committee to make inquiry whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting, would invalidate the title to our trust property, presented the following Report viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings in the 8 mo — last, to make careful legal inquiry, to ascertain whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting would in any way invalidate the title to its property, have attended to that duty & hereby submit the opinions of T. A. Jenks, and Asa Reddington, the former of which has been read in a previous meeting —

Newport 6mo — 11th — 1855 —

Samuel Taylor junr for the Comm.

And the consideration of the legal opinions obtained, is refered to our next meeting — and the committee are continued to give further attention to the subject —

An Epistle from Ohio Meeting for Sufferings was received at this time, as follows viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New-England Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends — Circumstances have taken place at our Yearly meeting this year, of such a character as makes it necessary for us to give you a brief account of — Having been deeply tried at several of our Yearly Meetings, for the last nine years, by the separatists from New-England intruding on the Meeting, in which they have been encouraged, by many of our own members, and received countenance from the Clerk, who has also changed the established order of the Yearly Meeting, and interrupted that Christian intercourse which had previously existed between all the Yearly Meetings of Friends, by refusing from year to year to read and answer the Epistle from New-England, against the judgment and remonstrance of a large portion of the meeting, by which and other like proceedings, the harmony of this body has been broken, and a number of our subordinate meetings thrown into discord and confusion — Friends travelling in the ministry are openly charged with unsoundness, and in one instance the Meeting House was closed against a minister from a neighboring Yearly Meeting, who had credentials from the meetings at home, & who was in good unity with Friends — In some places, elders, and active members refused to attend meetings appointed by the ministers from the different Yearly Meetings, who have full credentials from their friends at home — In some instances, certificates of removal have been refused, the rights of members infringed upon, and high charges made against individuals of good standing; thus the confusion and disorder manifest in our Yearly Meeting, and in many of our subordinate Meetings for several years, have thrown the Society within our limits, into a sorrowful and deplorable condition — In various Meetings no agreement could be come to for the appointment of Clerks, overseers, members of the meetings for sufferings or of the select body —

When the select meeting assembled on Seventh-day, Thomas B. Gould, Clerk of the Meeting of Separatists from New England Yearly Meeting was conducted into the gallery, by one of our own members, and when the Meeting was opened, produced a certificate from one of their separate Meetings — His attendance was objected to by many friends, and it was clearly & decidedly shown, that such certificate coming from a branch of that separate body which was not owned by any Yearly Meeting of Friends in the world, could not consistently be produced to the Meeting, nor him who held it be permitted to sit therein — The certificate was not read, but the privilege of the individual to remain in meeting was advocated by some, and appeared to be countenanced by all those who had taken the stand against New-England Yearly Meeting —

On Second day the first sitting was opened, and the meeting held with the clerks of last year at the table, the Representatives were all present, the minutes of ministers and Friends from other Yearly Meetings were read, but no other business was transacted on account of the meeting being intruded upon by Thomas B. Gould and his companions,

the former professing to be travelling as a minister — Wherefore Friends who have been desirous through best help to restore and sustain the good order and discipline of this Yearly Meeting, having weightily considered the circumstances in their own minds believed, that the time had come when a change of clerks should be made; therefore in accordance with our discipline at the commencement of the second sitting on third day morning, one of the representatives reported that they had confered together, and that a considerable portion of them had agreed to report the name of Jonathan Binns for clerk, and James B. Bruff for assistant, which was united with by a large number of Friends, and very little opposition was expressed —
Another Representative who had heretofore supported the cause of the separatists, informed the meeting, that the representatives could not agree upon names for clerk and assistant — Upon which Benjamin Hoyle made a minute, which he soon after read continuing himself and former assistant as clerks — After some time the Friends who had been so fully united with for clerks were requested to go to the table, which they did without excitement or confusion, there being ample room there, as the former assistant had not taken his seat at the table — Benjamin Hoyle remaining there and keeping possession of the books and papers — After some time Jonathan Binns read the minute of his appointment as clerk and James B. Bruff as assistant; a considerable time then passed in this way, Benjamin Hoyle and the present clerk and assistant at the table, no other business being transacted until Benjamin Hoyle read a minute of adjournment, and those who had been so disaffected to the good order of the Society for many years, together with Thomas B. Gould, and William Evans, and Charles Evans of Philadelphia, and Thomas B. Gould's companion, all left the meeting — Friends, and all the ministers and other friends with certificates or ministers from other Yearly Meetings, except those above-named, remained in the house, and proceeded with the business, through the several sittings and without interruption concluded our meeting on sixth day evening under a comforting sense that we were owned by the Shepherd of Israel —

Signed by direction of the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting held at Mount Pleasant the 7th of the 9th mo 1854 —

Isaac Parker one of the Correspondents — } James B Bruff Clerk

And we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, Joseph Metcalf, & John Meader, to prepare an essay for an Epistle to that Meeting for Sufferings, and present it to our next meeting —

At a meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 15th of 8 mo 1855 —

Present at this time 33 members viz — Estes Newhall, David Buffum, Perez Peck, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor jr, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Mead Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Walter Sawyer, Aden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Jesse Crossman, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford & Nathan Breed —

The committee to advise & consult with Friends of Nantucket respecting the situation of the property belonging to that monthly meeting, which is under the control of the separatists, have presented a report; which being read is accepted; and it is the judgment of this meeting, that, in accordance with the report, Friends of Nantucket Monthly Meeting, should be encouraged patiently to bear the inconvenience attendant upon the present circumstances in relation to their property, without taking any legal measures for the recovery thereof; and the Clerk is directed to furnish that monthly meeting, with a copy of this minute —

The committee to prepare an essay for an Epistle, to Ohio Meeting for Sufferings, at this time presented one; which being read and approved the Clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf and forward it to that meeting.

The Epistle is as follows — viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting —

Beloved Friends —

Your acceptable Epistle of 9 mo 9th 1854, was recd. and read in our meeting, in which you give us an account of the various trying circumstances, and of the difficulties under which you have labored for many years, which have finally produced a separation within the limits of Ohio Yearly Meeting — We have been introduced into deep sympathy with you under the circumstances in which you are placed and fervent are our desires that you may witness the preserving arm of the Lord to be round about you — that while firm in the support of the Truth, you may be imbued with the meekness of wisdom and that gentleness and forbearance which give evidence of being the true followers of the Lamb — We desire to offer you affectionately the language of encouragement — We have known at least in measure, trials similar to yours, and are prepared to sympathize with you — In a day like the present it becomes us all in humility to put our trust in the Lord — The cause is His — from Him alone comes every qualification to sustain and advance it — and blessed be His name, strength and wisdom are never with-held from those, who, in abasedness of self, and in child-like dependence, seek to know and do his will — We have no doubt that the good order of the Church is essential to its prosperity — that the establishment of this order, and of our Christian discipline, was in best wisdom — and that it is the duty of every faithful member to be engaged for their support — And as we give evidence that it is our concern to act in singleness for the Truth — having no ends of our own to accomplish — we shall not only know within ourselves that peace which passeth understanding but may be favored to witness the return of some who have separated themselves, from the body of Friends —

That you, dear brethren, may know the Shepherd of Israel to be near to guide, to comfort and to keep you is the desire and prayer of this meeting —

P. S. From the tenor of your communication to us, and from the facts that have come to our knowledge we apprehend that the Epistle addressed by this Meeting to yours in 1853 may not be in your possession We therefore forward you a duplicate of it —

Extracts from the Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting, are received at this time as follows — Viz —

"At the Yearly meeting of Friends for New-England held on Rhode-Island in the 6mo — 1855 —

"The subject of making some provision whereby assistance may be extended to friends concerned to attend this Yearly Meeting, whose circumstances may render it difficult for them to do so, claiming our attention, it is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, to act therein as way may open for, after a careful consideration of the matter" —

"A proposition contained in the Reports from Falmouth and Fairfield Quarterly Meetings for some change in our present Discipline as to the manner of making additions to our meetings of Ministers and elders now claiming our attention, it is referred to our Meeting for Sufferings carefully to consider the subject and report their sense and judgment together with any proposition for a change in our discipline, should way open to propose any in this respect, to our next Yearly Meeting" —

From the minutes of the Meeting —

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

And we appoint our friends David Buffum, Samuel Taylor Jr, William Carr, John D. Davis, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Nathan Breed, Benjamin Buffum, Henry M. Minot, William C. Taber, Stephen Jones, Samuel Gifford, Richard Batty, Tobias Meader, John Osborne, Caleb Jones, and John Page; to take the subject of making some provision for the class of friends referred to in the foregoing Extract, who may be concerned to attend our yearly meeting, into consideration and report their views thereon at a future meeting —

And the proposition for making some change in our discipline as to the manner of making additions to our meetings of ministers & elders, claiming our attention, after a time of deliberation thereon, we appoint John Meader, John D. Lang, William C. Taber, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, George Howland jr, David Buffum, and William Farr, to take the subject into careful and solid consideration, and report their views thereon at a future meeting —

The committee to make inquiry whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting would invalidate the title to our trust property, inform that some attention has been given to the subject; but not being prepared to report further at this time, they are continued, and are desired to report at our next meeting

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 13th of 11 mo 1855 —
Present 12 members viz — Estes Newhall, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Caleb Jones, Gilbert Congdon, John Page, & Lemuel Gifford —

The committee to consider the subject of making some provision for that class of Friends who may be concerned to attend our Yearly meeting, but who may not be in circumstances to do so, inform they have given some attention to their appointment; But not being prepared to report in full at the present time, they are continued —

The committee to take into consideration the propriety of making some change in our discipline, respecting the manner of making additions to our meetings of ministers and elders, inform that they have met and given attention thereto; But not being prepared to report further at this time, they are continued —

The committee to make further inquiry, in order to ascertain whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting would in any way invalidate our title to our trust property, inform that they have given attention thereto; and that the opinions of Dr. A. Jenks, and Asa Reddington have been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to each of the members of our Meeting for Sufferings — The Committee are continued, & are desired to give further attention to the object of their appointment, and report to our next meeting —

A communication from London Meeting for Sufferings was received at this time as follows. viz —

"To the several Meetings for Sufferings of Friends in America

Dear friends — The address of our Yearly Meeting, in 1849, to Sovereigns and those in authority in the nations of Europe & in other parts of the world where the Christian religion is professed on the cruelties of the African Slave time and the iniquity of Slavery, has been very extensively circulated — we now apprehend that it will be interesting to our Friends in America to receive the report of the deputations who have been employed in this service on behalf of our Yearly Meeting; and, more especially the report of those Friends, who in 1853 and 1854 presented the address to the Presidents and Governors in the United States of America —

We have therefore concluded to forward a copy for your acceptance; and to suggest for your consideration the propriety of giving a wide circulation among Friends in the different Yearly Meetings in your land, of that part at least which has reference to American Slavery —

It was under a deep feeling of religious concern that this address was adopted in our Yearly Meeting of 1849, and it was under a renewed feeling of a similar character in 1853, that an appointment was made to proceed on this labor of love and work of faith to the United States of America —

In the prosecution of this service our friends travelled extensively in the Slave holding States — Thus they were brought deeply to feel for the oppressed and degraded slave, deprived as he is of those natural rights which his merciful Creator has bestowed upon him — They were also led to pity and deplore the condition of the Slave-holder, who whilst upholding the cruel bondage of his Slave, is himself exposed to the evil influences consequent upon the arbitrary power which he possesses over his fellow-men

We feel sensible that in our efforts to maintain this christian testimony, which has so long been borne by our religious society, our dear brethren in America are closely united with us — And hence arises our solicitude that the circulation of the facts and sentiments contained in this report, may be a means of encouraging them to continued, earnest, and persevering labor in this righteous cause — The length of time that this enormous evil has existed, ought not in any wise to occasion us to be at ease under the continuance of the sin — And we believe that as we are earnest in simplicity, in christian love, and in reliance upon the Most High, to know and to perform our duty in this matter, a way will be opened to you and to us, for continued exertions on behalf of these our deeply injured fellowmen

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings held in London the 7th of 9 mo 1855 —

Joseph T Foster, Clerk
this time
(Copy James Bowden")

Which claiming our attention, we appoint our Friends Stephen A Chase, and Samuel Boyce, to give the subject their consideration, and prepare an essay for a communication, to that meeting acknowledging the receipt of the communication, and the printed report of their committee, & present it at our next meeting for approbation —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 5th of 2 mo. 1856 —
Present at this time 16 members — viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Harkness, William C Taber, Benajah Buffum, William A. Robinson, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed,

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence of two of our members at our last meeting, and for one at the present time —

The committee continued in order to make further inquiry, and ascertain whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting would in any way invalidate our title to our trust property, inform that further attention has been given thereto; but not being prepared to report in full they are continued —

The committee to prepare an essay for a Communication to London Meeting for Sufferings, presented one; which being read and approved, the clerk was directed to sign it on our behalf, & forward it to that meeting —

The communication is as follows viz —

To London Meeting for Sufferings —

Dear Friends — A copy of your circular Epistle addressed to the several meetings for Sufferings of Friends in America, has been duly received; and read in this meeting, accompanied with a copy of the "Narrative" referred to therein, both of which have been interesting, and acceptable —

The object in view, in giving publicity and circulation to the Narrative, is one in which we continue to feel a deep and lively interest, one which demands the co-operation of every consistent believer in the Gospel of Christ, and in which they should be closely united — And fervent are our desires that we may be found faithfully maintaining and upholding our testimony against the iniquitous system of Slavery, and that, relying on the Most High for guidance and direction, we may be favoured to see what is required at our hands, and be strengthened faithfully to perform it, that we may be clear of the blood of our fellow-men —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Providence 4 mo. 29th 1856 —
Present at this time 17 members viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard

Battey, & Lemuel Gifford —

Satisfactory reasons are received for the absence of several of our members at the present time, & for one at our last meeting —

The committee to take into consideration the propriety of making some change in our discipline, as to the manner of making additions to our meetings of ministers and elders, inform that they have given attention thereto; and the subject is continued under their care for further consideration —

A testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Smithfield Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Lydia R. Kelly, was at this time received and read; And our friends John Meader and Samuel Boyce, are requested to examine the same, & present it to our next Meeting.

We appoint Samuel Boyce, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, David Buffum, Micajah C. Pratt, Lemuel Gifford, and William C. Taber, to render such information and assistance, as may appear desirable and necessary to Friends, in regard to their obtaining suitable accommodations, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 14th of 6mo 1856 —

Present at this time, 35 members, Viz — Rowland Greene, Estes Mitchell, James N. Fry, John Osborn, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

Our beloved friends Jared Patterson, William Hill, William Kenworthy, & Benjamin Hollinsworth from Indiana Yearly Meeting; David Updegraff, from Ohio Yearly Meeting; & Henry Bull, David H. Bennett, and Ira Lapham, from NewYork Yearly Meeting, are at this time acceptably with us —

Satisfactory reasons are assigned for the absence of one of the members of this meeting at this time —

The committee to examine the testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Lydia R. Kelly at this time presented it; which, being read & approved, the clerk was directed to lay before our Yearly Meeting —

The following communication was at this time received from a committee of China Monthly Meeting viz

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends

The undersigned on behalf of China Monthly Meeting would represent that said meeting have property within the British Province of Nova Scotia held by said Meeting for the benefit of its members resident in that Province to which it appears by the laws of that Province they are not legally possessed, and cannot be without Legislative action in the case

We therefore ask the advice and assistance of your body in relation to the matter

Stephen Jones
Eli Jones
James Van Blarcom } Committee"

Whereupon we appoint John D. Lang, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyd Tobey, and Samuel Boyce to take the subject into consideration, and report their views thereon at a future Meeting

The committee to make further legal inquiry, in order to ascertain whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting, would invalidate the title to its trust property, at this time presented the written opinions of William R. Staples of Providence, & Joel Parker of Cambridge which have been read; The committee are continued, and are requested to report their views in relation to the subject at an adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to meet again on 3rd day the 17th Instant at 8 o clk in the evening

---

17th of 6mo. met pursuant to adjournment
Present at this time, 35 members

Several of the Friends from other Yearly Meetings, who were present at our last Meeting, are at this time acceptably with us, & our beloved friend David Sands from Newyork Yearly Meeting in addition thereto

The committee to make legal inquiry whether the removal of our Yearly Meeting would invalidate the title to our trust property presented the following report viz

To the Meeting for Sufferings

The committee appointed to make careful inquiry whether a change in the place of holding the sessions of our Yearly Meeting, would in any way invalidate the titles to the trust funds now in its possession have attended to their appointment — They have procured the opinion of legal counsel on the question, which they have heretofore laid before the meeting for Sufferings, and which have been read before that meeting — The result of their inquiries is, that there are doubts whether the removal contemplated may not injuriously affect the title of the Yearly Meeting to the possession of the trust funds now held by that Meeting, unless additional legislation is procured from the Government of Rhode-Island, and perhaps Massachusetts — And such legislation it is thought it may be difficult, if not impracticable to obtain at at the present time —

We would suggest for the consideration of the meeting whether it may not, under all the circumstances be reasonable and best, for Friends to look towards some arrangement, by which the travelling expenses of Friends attending the Yearly Meeting may be equalized

on behalf of the Committee

Newport 6mo. 16th 1856 —
John Osborne
John D. Lang."

Which being read and approved is accepted; and the committee are released from further attention thereto — And this meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting, that measures be promptly taken whereby the suggestion made by the committee relative to making some arrangements by which the travelling expenses of Friends attending the Yearly Meeting may be equalized, may be carried out —

The committee to take into consideration, the subject of making some change in our discipline, as to the manner in which additions are to be made to our meetings of ministers and elders, have given attention to their appointment, and have prepared an article in relation thereto, which has been read; and after a time of solid consideration, it was approved; And the Clerk is directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to take into consideration the propriety of making some provision for friends concerned to attend our Yearly Meeting, but who may not be in circumstances to do so, inform that they have given attention to their appointment, and have had a very free interchange of sentiment in relation thereto; and that way did not appear to open for making any definite proposition at this time —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before our Yearly Meeting — Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting — Signed on behalf of the meeting

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 13th of 6mo. 1856 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, with the exception of Charles Atherton who has removed from within the limits of this Yearly Meeting —

Present at this time 37 members —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this Meeting for the coming year —

It is concluded that the times & places, for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows. Viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 9 mo. at 4 o clk. in the afternoon —

At New-Bedford on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 12 mo. at 11 o clk. in the morning —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5 o clk in the afternoon —

The Yearly Meeting having requested this Meeting to make arrangements, whereby the suggestion made to it by this meeting, in relation to measures being taken to equalize the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting, may be carried out, and this meeting believing that benefit would result from raising a fund not less than 10,000 Dolls. in amount, the income of which may be appropriated to that purpose, We appoint our friends Gilbert Congdon, Ebenezer Frye, George Howland Jr., Nathan Breed, Alden Sampson, Micajah C. Pratt, Caleb Jones, Richard Battey, Stephen A. Chase, Charles R. Tucker, William A. Robinson, Joseph Metcalf, Benajah Buffum, Henry M. Minot, Samuel Taylor Jr., and Stephen Jones, to open subscriptions throughout our Yearly Meeting, with a view of raising said fund, and report to a future meeting — The committee are to be left at liberty either to receive subscriptions for specific sums to constitute said fund, or, in place thereof, subscriptions for the annual payment of such an amount as Friends may be free to contribute — And the committee are requested to consider of, and report some plan for an arrangement, whereby the funds thus raised, may be appropriated to the purpose intended, to the satisfaction of friends —

The attention of this meeting being at this time called to the condition & situation of Friends meeting house & lot in Boston, & it being believed that some attention thereto, from this meeting may be useful & necessary, we appoint our Friends, John Osborne, Stephen A. Chase, David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, George Howland Jr, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, & Samuel Taylor Jr, to examine & view said house & lot, and ascertain what our title to said property is, & from whence it arises, & to make such suggestions in relation thereto, as in their judgment may be proper —

The Yearly Meeting having requested this meeting to take into consideration the present accommodations afforded by the house in which our yearly meeting is held, and to take such measures as it may deem proper in relation to it, and also to take any necessary care in regard to the title to the land upon which the house stands, or, in regard to any other land required for the accommodation of our yearly meeting, we appoint our friends Thomas Harkness, William A. Robinson, David Buffum, Charles R. Tucker, and George Howland Jr, to consider the subject, and report their views thereon at our next meeting

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 20th of 6 mo. 1856.

Present at this time 25 members viz — Estes Newhall, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Timothy E. Collins, Thomas Harkness, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

Our beloved friend David Sands from New York Yearly Meeting, is also acceptably with us —

Satisfactory reasons are assigned for the absence at this time, of four of the members of this meeting —

Our Yearly Meeting having requested this meeting to have a new edition of our book of Discipline printed, containing the regulations which have from time to time been adopted by that meeting, (with such revision of the language not affecting the meaning as may be deemed proper,) and that copies thereof be furnished to the various subordinate meetings, we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, & William C. Taber, to examine & revise the book, pursuant to the request of our Yearly Meeting, and to cause an edition of 700 copies thereof to be printed, & report to this Meeting when the service is accomplished —

This meeting being requested by our Yearly Meeting to have an edition printed of the memorials now on file, of deceased Friends, we appoint our friends Charles R. Tucker, George Howland Jr, Joseph Metcalf, & John Meader, to examine & revise said memorials, and to cause an edition of 1000 copies thereof to be printed, & report to a future meeting, when the service is accomplished —

The committee to take into consideration the present accommodations afforded by the house in which our Yearly Meeting is held, and for other purposes, as specified in the minute of that meeting, at this time reported in part — The committee are continued, and are desired to give the subject further consideration, & report again at a future meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at New-Bedford, 3rd of 12 mo — 1856 —

Present 19 members — Viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford & Nathan Breed —

The Clerk being absent (for which a sufficient reason is assigned) Samuel Boyd Tobey is appointed Clerk for the day —

Reasons are given for the absence of several members of this meeting —

The committee to cause an Edition of 1000 copies of the memorials of deceased Friends to be printed, report that the service has been attended to, and the cost discharged without expense to this meeting —

Some subjects of moment engaged the attention of this meeting, and a lively concern was manifested, that Friends might be encouraged to greater diligence in becoming acquainted with a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, and in a faithful acknowledgment and support of the fundamental doctrines thereof, as always held by our forefathers in the truth —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 4th of 2 mo — 1857 —

Present 19 members, Viz — John Osborne, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Benajah Buffum, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Batty, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

Our beloved Friend Brinton Darlington from Indiana Yearly Meeting is also acceptably with us —

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at the present time of several of our members, and for the absence of one from our last meeting —

The committee to obtain subscriptions for the purpose of raising funds to equalize the travelling expenses of Friends of our Yearly Meeting attending the same, inform that attention has been given to the subject, and some progress has been made therein — The committee are continued, and are desired to complete the object of their appointment, and report to our next meeting —

The committee to have an edition of our book of Discipline printed, inform, that attention has been given to the subject, & that a new edition thereof is nearly completed — The committee are continued, and they are requested to forward a number of copies to each of our Quarterly Meetings, sufficient to furnish the clerks of our subordinate meetings, each, with a copy thereof, including the clerks of our select meetings — and the committee are left at liberty to dispose of a portion of the edition at the cost —

We appoint our friends, Thomas Harkness, Micajah C. Pratt, Joseph Metcalf, Charles R. Tucker, William Reynolds, David Buffum, and Benjamin Buffum, a committee to give such information, & to render such assistance, as may be necessary, to Friends, in regard to finding suitable accommodations for board while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 13th of 6mo. 1857

Present at this time 30 members viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Dick, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, Stephen A Chase, Saml Douglass, William Fair, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, Benjamin Buffum, Caleb Jones, Adam Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry W. Minott, John Pope, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, & Nathan Breed —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, William Cromwell, & William H. Chase, from New York, Yearly Meeting, Daniel Wood, Jonah Hole, & Edward Jenkins, from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and Elwood Osborne from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The committee to consider what measures if any should be taken in regard to property in Nova-Scotia belonging to China Monthly Meeting, inform that some attention has been given thereto — But not being prepared to report at this time, they are continued —

The committee to open subscriptions for raising funds for the purpose of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends of our Yearly Meeting attending the same, inform that attention has been given to the subject and some progress has been made therein — The committee are continued, and are desired to complete the object of their appointment, & report at an adjournment of this meeting —

The committee to give some attention to the condition of Boston Meeting House and lot, & to inquire what our title to the property is, and from whence it arises, inform that attention has been thereto; The committee are continued, & are desired to present a report at an adjournment of this meeting —

The committee to cause a new edition of our book of Discipline to be printed inform that the service has been accomplished, & that our Subordinate Meetings have been furnished with copies thereof, & that a portion of the edition have been sold, pursuant to the direction of this meeting — The committee are requested to place the remainder, in the hands of our Yearly Meeting's Treasurer —

A memorial from Salem Monthly Meeting, approved by Salem Quarterly meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Estes Newhall, was received and read; and being satisfactory, the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

Testimonies from Berwick Monthly Meeting, approved by Dover Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friends Joseph Brackett and his wife Salome C. Brackett, were also received and read; and being approved, the clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again, on third-day morning next at 8o clk —

Third-day Morning the 16th met pursuant to adjournment —

The committee to open subscriptions for the purpose of raising funds to equalize the travelling expenses of Friends attending the Yearly Meeting, presented the following report — viz :—

To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee appointed in the sixth month last year, to receive subscriptions for the purpose of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends who attend the Yearly Meeting — Report —

That they have given attention to the appointment, and 800 dollars has been subscribed, as the first annual payment; and the committee would recommend that eighty miles from Newport be considered a central point, and the travelling expenses of all Friends living more than that distance from the place of holding the Yearly Meeting be paid up to that point, going and returning; that the funds now received be placed in the hands of a Treasurer, appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings; and that two Friends from each Quarterly Meeting be appointed to disburse the same and account to the Treasurer for the amount so paid out by them, in accordance with the proposition contained herein — On behalf of the committee

Newport 6mo 16th 1857 — "Stephen Jones
Charles R. Tucker"

which after a time of consideration is accepted; and the propo—

sitions therein contained are adopted by this meeting — and we appoint Micajah C. Pratt Treasurer of such funds as may be collected for the purpose specified — And Gilbert Congdon, Thomas Harkness Nathan Breed, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, George Howland, Henry M. Minott, Caleb Jones, Richard Battey, John Osborne, Benjamin Buffum Tobias Meader, Ebenezer Frye, Stephen Jones, William Farr, and Samuel Taylor, are appointed to collect said funds, & to pay the amount received, into the Treasury, and apportion and disburse the same pursuant to the recommendations in the report —

The committee to give some attention to Boston Meeting House and lot, and for other purposes, presented the following report viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee appointed to make inquiry into the title of Friends Meeting House & Lot in Boston, and for other purposes have attended to the service, & find that early in the last century, a lot of land bounded on what is now Congress Street in Boston, was conveyed by William Mumford, to Samuel Collins, and Thomas Richardson, and upon this land was erected a Meeting House for Friends —

In 1717 a conveyance was executed by Samuel Collins and Thomas Richardson to Walter Newbury & others, & to the survivors of them, containing covenants against partition and other provisions showing it to be a trust estate — This trust was continued by deeds containing similar provisions to other persons in 1761 and again in 1803 —

In the years 1824 - 1825 and 1826 — by the judgment of the Supreme Judicial Court of the State of Massachusetts, the title of the estate was vested in the overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting, certain persons, who had received a conveyance of the lot from the surviving Trustees named in the Indenture of the year 1803 either conveying the same to the overseers aforesaid, or disclaiming title therein —

Under the advisement of the meeting for Sufferings, the overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting made sale of the Lot, for the sum of 22,000$ — The Meeting House last upon it having been injured by fire and removed — At this time the question of title as between the Yearly Meeting and Salem Monthly Meeting was adjusted — the Monthly Meeting receiving a portion of the proceeds of the sale —

From the same proceeds was purchased the Lot in Milton Place and the present Meeting House erected thereon, leaving a balance now in the hands of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, of about 1400 Dolls — the interest of which was to be appropriated from time to time in keeping the premises in good repair, and defraying such expenses as were incident to holding Friends Meetings in Boston –

The deed of conveyance of this Lot, is to "the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England" – It is a deed of warrantee and is without condition or limitation, except that no building is to be erected within ten feet of Milton Place –

The care of the House and Lot has been placed in the hands of the overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting, and that Meeting have paid the expenses incident thereto, being repaid from time to time, from the funds in the Yearly Meeting Treasury –

We are not aware that any settlement of these expenditures has been made of late years, and it is understood that there is a debt due for repairs &c – amounting to about 200 hundred Dollars – We are of the judgment that the location of the House and Lot on Milton Place has become from various causes unsuitable for the purpose – and that it would be best for Friends to dispose of the same whenever it can be done advantageously; and the principal of the funds arising from the sale be safely invested, for the purpose of a Friends' Meeting House in Boston, whenever it may be best to have such meeting House there, and in the mean time the income of such investment be applied & appropriated to such purposes as the Yearly meeting may direct –

On behalf of the Committee   Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce "

Which after consideration thereon is accepted, and this meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting, that the propositions made by the committee be adopted –

The committee to take into consideration the present accommodations afforded by the House in which our Yearly Meeting is held, and for other purposes, inform that attention has been given thereto – The committee are continued, and are desired to complete the object of their appointment, & report to a future meeting –

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year, before the Yearly Meeting –

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting –

Signed on behalf of the meeting –
Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 10th of 6mo 1857 –

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year viz – Rowland Greene, John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, Thomas S. Gifford, and Edward Earle – 47

Present at this time 42 members –

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this Meeting for the coming year –

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year, be as follows. Viz –

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8mo – at 4o clk in the afternoon –

At Vassalboro on 5th day before the 2d 6th day, in the 11mo at 10o clk. in the morning –

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day, in the 2d month at 3o clk in the afternoon –

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 5o clk in the afternoon –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 19th of 8mo 1857 –

Present at this time 31 members viz – David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson William A Robinson, Stephen Beede, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newel Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle –

We have also the acceptable company of Daniel Wood from Ohio Yearly Meeting –

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at this time of two of the members of this meeting —

The following communication was at this time received from our last Yearly Meeting, viz —

"The Meeting for Sufferings having proposed that Friends' meeting house & lot on Milton Place, in Boston, should be sold, and the proceeds thereof invested in a fund to be preserved for the purpose of providing a Meeting House for Friends in Boston, should this be deemed desirable at any future day, and the income in the mean time from year to year appropriated to such purposes as this Meeting may direct; the proposition is approved and sanctioned by us, and the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to attend to the subject, and effect a sale of said property, whenever in its judgment, it may be advantageously done, and invest the amount received for such sale, as proposed; and the Treasurer of this Meeting is authorized, when requested to do so by the Meeting for Sufferings, to execute on our behalf the necessary deeds of conveyance attaching his seal thereto, as the seal of this Yearly Meeting —

Our brethren of London Yearly Meeting, in their Epistle of the present year, inform that they propose forwarding to this meeting a document issued by that meeting, entitled "A Salutation in the Love of Christ, to all who bear the name of Friend" — and also "A minute addressed to parents on the important and interesting subject of early religious training" — These documents not having yet come to hand, the Meeting for Sufferings is requested to receive and dispose of on behalf of this Meeting —

From the minutes of the Meeting.

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Micajah C. Pratt, Stephen A. Chase, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, & Nathan Breed, a committee to make inquiry, and ascertain upon what terms said property can be disposed of, & report their views thereon at a future Meeting —

And this Meeting believing that a more minute and definite account to be spread upon our records, of the origin of the funds from which said house & lot were procured, and the sources from whence they were derived would be interesting, we appoint our Friends Stephen A. Chase, and John Osborne, to make inquiry in relation thereto, & prepare a statement thereof, & present to a future meeting, with such other information in regard to the origin of said house and lot, as in their judgment may be interesting as a matter of history —

Copies of the documents referred to in the minute of our Yearly Meeting as being about to be printed by London Yearly Meeting, having been received and read, this meeting appoints our friends William C. Taber, George Howland jun., & Charles R. Tucker, to cause an edition of 3000 copies of the "Salutation" to be printed and put in the way of being distributed among those to whom it is addressed, according to the request of London Yearly Meeting —

The committee to take into consideration, the accommodations afforded by the house in which our Yearly Meeting is held, & for other purposes, inform that attention has been given to their appointment; but not being prepared to present a full report, they are continued. And John D. Lang, George Bowen, and Alden Sampson, are at this time added to said committee — And said committee are left at liberty to proceed in making such alterations and improvements in the house as in their judgment they may deem proper —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Vassalboro' 12th of 11 mo. 1857 —

Present at this time 14 members viz — David Buffum, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David Douglas, William Farr, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, John Page, & Joseph Taylor —

Satisfactory reasons are received, for the nonattendance of several of the members of this meeting at the present time —

The committee to take into consideration the accommodations afforded by the house in which our Yearly Meeting is held; and to make alterations and improvements therein, as they may think advisable inform that attention has been given to their appointment, and that an addition of a porch in front has been made to the house, and the inside of the building is being prepared for the holding of two public Meetings at one and the same time, & other changes are being made, by which it is believed that better accommodations will be afforded for holding our Yearly Meeting — All of which is satisfactory —

And the Committee are continued, and are desired to complete the object of their appointment, and report to a future meeting — And the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the expense incurred in making said improvements and alterations —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3rd of 2 mo. 1858

Present at this time 23 members, viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perry Peck, William Reynolds, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, David K. Akin, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland jr, Benajah Buffum, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, David Kelly, & Thomas S. Gifford—

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at this time, of several of the members of this meeting—

The committee to take into consideration the accommodations for holding our Yearly Meeting, afforded by the house in which it is held, and to make such alterations and improvements therein, as they may think advisable, inform that they have given further attention to their appointment, and that the improvements in the house reported at our last meeting as being in progress, are now nearly completed

The committee are continued, and are desired to report in full at our next meeting—

And said committee are requested to make such arrangements with Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting, in regard to the land on which the Meeting House stands, and also in regard to such other matters as were referred to them, as was originally contemplated by our Yearly Meeting—

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting, and the Treasurer of our Boarding School, have at this time presented statements, showing in what manner the funds of our Yearly Meeting, and of the School are invested; which being read are satisfactory to the Meeting; and the clerk is directed to place said statements on file—

We appoint our friends David Buffum, George Bowen, Percy Peck, Micajah C. Pratt, and Benajah Buffum, a committee to render such assistance as may be needed, & to give such information to friends as may be necessary in regard to their finding suitable accommodations for board, while in the attendance of our Yearly meeting—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 12th of 6mo 1858—

Present at this time 3[illegible] members, viz— [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], Edmund Chase, [illegible] [illegible], Samuel Boyce, Joseph Tabor, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Harkness, [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Batty, Ebenezer Fuge, Henry H. Minott John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, Joseph Tuck, [illegible] Borden, [illegible], [illegible] Batty, [illegible], Thomas L. Gifford, & Edward Earle —

[illegible] small, [illegible] Yearly Meeting —

[illegible] offered [illegible] of our members at this time —

The committee to make inquiry and ascertain upon what terms the Meeting House & lot in Boston can be disposed of, inform that they have not been unmindfull of their appointment; and they are apprehensive that the most favorable time for disposing of said property has not yet arrived; The committee are desired to give further attention to the object of their appointment, & report at a future meeting —

The committee to prepare a statement respecting the origin of the funds from which the meeting House & lot in Boston were procured, and to collect other information in regard to said House and lot, pursuant to a minute of this meeting made in the [illegible] last, inform that some progress has been made in relation thereto; but not being prepared to report in full at this time, they are continued

The committee to take into consideration the accommodations required by the House in which our Yearly Meeting is held, and to make such alterations and improvements as they may deem necessary, and also to make an arrangement with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting in regard to the land on which the house stands, presented the following report, viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee on the repairs and improvements upon the Meeting House at Newport, now report; that they have caused to be built an addition in front of 52 feet by 12, [illegible] and finishing two committee rooms in the upper story, and [illegible] the internal arrangements, seating &c — the whole cost [illegible] being 3845,01 and after deducting 52,47 for materials sold, and 600 Dolls. contributed towards the expense, leaves a balance of 31[illegible] [illegible] charged in the account [illegible] by direction of the Meeting for Sufferings —

[illegible] — [illegible]

which is satisfactory to this meeting — and the Committee are requested to give such further attention to the objects of their appointment, as may [illegible]

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before [illegible] meeting —

[illegible] of the Yearly Meeting —

[illegible] meeting

Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 17th of 6mo — 1858 —

By the clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings who composed it last year — Present at this time 35 members, viz —

David Buffum, Peréz Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Wm Osborne, Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Gould, Daniel K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, Wm C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr Benjamin Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Sewell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr & Thomas L. Gifford

Our beloved friend Olney Thompson from Indiana Yearly Meeting is also again acceptably with us —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this meeting for the coming year —

It is concluded that the times & places for holding our meetings the coming year be as follows viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d fifth day in the 8 month, at 4 o clk in the afternoon —

At Vassalboro on 5th day before the 2d Sixth day in the 11 mo. at 11 o clk in the morning —

At Providence on 4th day before the first 5th day in the 2 mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the Commencement of our Yearly Meeting at 5 o clk in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 18th of 8mo 1858 –
Present at this time 25 members viz – David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minot, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, Moses Huntington Junr, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle –

Our beloved friend Olney Thompson is again acceptably with us.

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at this time, of several of the members of this meeting –

The committee appointed by this meeting to make an arrangement between the Yearly Meeting, and Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting, in regard to the Meeting House in which the Yearly Meeting is held, and the land on which it stands, presented the following instrument of agreement, viz –

"The following agreement is made between New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends, of which Samuel Boyd Tobey is now and has been for some years Clerk, and Rhode-Island monthly meeting of which Jonathan Dennis is now, and has been for some years Clerk, viz – Be it known and remembered that for some years previous to the year 1807, the meeting house in Newport belonging to Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting of Friends, in which New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends had been held for nearly or quite one Hundred years, not affording sufficient room for the comfortable accommodation thereof, the Yearly Meeting at its own expense built an addition at the South East end, of 40 feet by 45; Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting granting the free use of the land occupied by said addition, and in 1857, the Yearly meeting needing further accommodation, R. I. monthly meeting granted the free use of so much more of their land as might be required by the Yearly meeting to build another addition in front of 52 feet by 12; and the Yearly Meeting having caused said addition to be built, and improvements to be made on the large room of the Monthly Meeting's house, it is now agreed and understood, that the Yearly Meeting is to keep the additions it has caused to be built in repair, and that each meeting insure one half the whole house against fire, and to share equally what may be received from the Insurance Co. in case of loss by fire, the Monthly Meeting granting the free use of the land to the yearly meeting, so long as it shall continue to hold its annual meetings in this house, or some other erection in its stead on the same lot —

Newport 6 mo — 14th — 1858 —

David Buffum
William A. Robinson
Geo. Howland Jr.
Thomas Harkness
John D. Lang
Alden Sampson
Charles R. Tucker
Geo. Bowen
} Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings —

In witness whereof the undersigned being Overseers in the Monthly Meeting of Rhode-Island, being a corporation to manage its pecuniary affairs, and by the direction of said Monthly Meeting have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and year above written —

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of
John W. Davis —

David Buffum (Seal)
Jacob Mott (Seal)
Josiah Chase (Seal)
George Anthony" (Seal)

[The foregoing instrument was duly acknowledged & recorded in the city clerk's office Newport in the 7 mo. 1858 — in Vol 1st of assignments, leases, & bills of sale —]

All of which is satisfactory to this meeting —

The subject of a more extended circulation of books and publications setting forth the principles and doctrines of our Society, has at this time claimed our serious consideration, and a lively concern has been manifested that the way should be made more easy of access for obtaining these works, and that Friends should be encouraged to increased diligence in the circulation thereof; and after a time of solid deliberation thereon, we appoint our friends, John Meader, Stephen A Chase, William C. Taber, Joseph Metcalf, Nathan Breed, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, Alden Sampson, Henry M. Minott, John D. Lang, and Gilbert Congdon, to take the subject into weighty consideration & report to a future meeting, what measures it is advisable should be taken by this meeting in order to carry the concern of Friends into effect —

This meeting deeming it advisable that for the better accommodation of Friends, some further portion of the House in which our Yearly meeting is held, should be cushioned, we appoint Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Alden Sampson, Henry M. Minott, Joseph Metcalf, Stephen A. Chase, David K. Akin, Benajah Buffum, Joseph Taber and Edward Earle, to solicit subscriptions for that purpose, & report to a future meeting when the service shall have been accomplished —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Vassalboro, 11th of 11 mo. 1858 —

Present at this time 21 members. viz — John Meader, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, David Douglas, William Farr, William C. Taber, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, & Alden Sampson, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minot Charles R. Tucker, Joseph Taylor, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, & Moses Huntington Jr.

Satisfactory reasons are received, for the absence at this time of several of the members of this meeting —

The committee to take into consideration the subject of taking measures for the more extended circulation of books and publications setting forth the principles and doctrines of our Society, inform that since our last meeting some of their number have met and conferred together, and although they have no proposition to make at this time, yet they are apprehensive that way may open for a report at the time of our next Meeting — The subject has at this time claimed the renewed attention of the meeting, & the committee have been encouraged to give it further consideration, and Stephen Jones. & Samuel Taylor Jr are added to said committee —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2d of 2 mo. 1859 —

Present at this time 26 members. viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Taylor Jr, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Benajah Buffum, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle —

Satisfactory reasons are received for the absence at this time, of several of the members of this meeting —

We appoint our friends George Bowen, Perez Peck, Micajah C. Pratt, David Buffum, & Alden Sampson, a committee to render such assistance as may be needed, and to give such information as may be necessary, to friends in regard to finding suitable accommodations for board, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

Several subjects connected with the welfare & best interests our society, have at this time claimed our solid consideration —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 11th of 6mo 1859 —

Present at this time 31 members viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, William Reynolds, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Edmund Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy E. Collins, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Benajah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Adam Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr & Thomas S. Gifford —

Our beloved friends Robert Lindsey from London Yearly Meeting, Joseph King from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, & Thomas Frazier and Joel Bean from Indiana Yearly Meeting, are at this time acceptably with us —

Memorials from South Kingston Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friends Mary A. Robinson, & Mary A. Collins. One from New Bedford Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Hannah T. Taber, & One from China Monthly Meeting Concerning our late beloved friend Rachel W. Jones, have been read and approved; and the Clerk is directed to lay them before the Yearly Meeting —

A Memorial from Sydney Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Samuel Taylor, has also been read and considered; and we appoint our friends Stephen A. Chase, John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, & Samuel Boyce, to examine said memorial, & present it again at an adjournment of this meeting —

Adjourned, to meet again at the close of the sitting of our Yearly Meeting on third day afternoon —

Sixth Month 14th met pursuant to adjournment —

Our beloved friends Joseph King & Jesse Tyson from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, & William Cromwell from NewYork Yearly Meeting are at this time acceptably with us —

The committee to examine the testimony concerning our late beloved friend Samuel Taylor, presented the following report viz — "The committee to whom was refered the testimony of

Sydney Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Samuel Taylor Report — that they have carefully examined the document forwarded through Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, and in feeling and tenderness have to say that it does not appear to them as being in all respects, such a testimony as is desirable to publish, concerning this dear and honoured Friend and we would suggest the propriety of returning said document to the Quarterly Meeting, with the expression of the desire that Sydney Monthly Meeting would draw up its testimony concerning this beloved Friend, in relation to his life and example, together with his exercises, and devoted religious labours, as a minister of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, with a view to its publication, for the edification and encouragement of others —

Newport 6mo. 14th 1859 — Signed Stephen A. Chase
John D. Lang
Stephen Jones
John Meader
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Samuel Boyce"

Which after a time of solid deliberation is accepted; and the clerk is directed to return said testimony to Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, with a copy of the report, and an extract of this minute —

And it is the conclusion of this meeting to recommend, that in preparing of testimonies by Monthly Meetings, concerning deceased members, we should adhere to the ancient practise of Friends, by confining these testimonies to an account of their religious life and services, and that when it is believed right, that a more extended notice should be given, embracing some biography of their lives, it should be as a memoir concerning them —

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 11th of 6 mo. 1859 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year —

Present at this time 33 members viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Henry Peck, William Reynolds, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Davis, Samuel Chase, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, Wm C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Jeremiah Buffum, Caleb Jones, Olney Thompson, William A. Robinson, Robert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry A. Minot, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Samuel Howe, David Kelly, Moses Huntington jr, Thomas S. Gifford, and Edward Earle —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this meeting the coming year —

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows, Viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3rd 5th day in the 8 mo, at 4 o clk in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2nd mo, at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 6 o clk in the afternoon —

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the committee appointed to collect funds for the purpose of defraying the travelling expenses of Friends in attending our Yearly Meeting, a sum, not exceeding 550 Drs to be expended for that purpose —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 17th of 8 mo 1859 —

Present at this time 27 members. Viz — David Buffum, Henry Peck, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Davis, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, David Douglas, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Isaac Howland jr, Jeremiah Buffum, Olney Thompson, William A. Robinson, Robert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry A. Minott, John Pease, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, David Kelly, Moses Huntington jr, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle —

Our beloved friend Thomas Frazier, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, is again acceptably with us —

A communication from a member of this meeting not now in attendance is received offering reasons which are satisfactory for his absence at this time—.

A copy of Memorials of deceased Friends, has at this time been received from the Meeting for Sufferings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, which is very acceptable; and the clerk is directed to forward to that Meeting an extract of this minute, & sign it on our behalf—

A communication from our last Yearly Meeting was received at this time as follows viz—

"Yearly Meeting 6 mo. 1859—

The portion of our Discipline in relation to the official steps to be taken by the church, in liberating Ministers in religious service, has claimed the consideration of this Meeting— and we are united in requesting the Meeting for Sufferings deliberately, and solemnly to consider the subject, and report their judgment thereon, to this meeting next year—

From the Minutes of the Meeting

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our friends John Meader, Stephen Jones, David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Stephen A. Chase, George Howland Jr, Samuel Boyce and William C. Taber, to take the subject into careful, and solid consideration, and report their views thereon at a future meeting—

A memoir concerning our late beloved friend Hannah Bassett has at this time been presented to this Meeting; and after a time of consideration, we appoint our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber & Benj Peck, to examine the same, & report their views thereon to a future meeting, with a view to granting liberty for its publication—

This meeting being informed, that there are members of [illegible] Monthly Meeting, residing in the British Provinces, whose pecuniary circumstances are such that it has been necessary to aid them &c, the matter has claimed our attention; and we appoint our friends John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, to take the subject into consideration, and report their views thereon at a future Meeting—

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 mo. 1. 1860—

Present at this time 19 members. Viz— David Buffum, Benj Peck, John Meader, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Harkness, William C. Taber, [illegible] Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Benjamin Buffum, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Charles R. Tucker,.

Lemuel Gifford, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle —

The committee to consider that portion of our Discipline in relation to the several steps to be taken by the church in liberating Ministers for religious service presented the following Report, viz —

"The committee to consider the subject referred to them by this Meeting, in relation to the liberation of Ministers for religious service, report; that they have given it their careful consideration, and propose that the following minute should be presented to the Yearly Meeting for its disposal

Providence 1 mo. 31. 1860 — On behalf of the Committee
John Meader —"

And the minute refered to in the Report, being read, was fully approved by this meeting; But in order to give opportunity for a more full and deliberate Consideration, it is refered to our next meeting —

The committee to examine the Memoir of our late dear friend Hannah Bassett, report, that they have attended to their appointment, & they would propose that liberty be granted to the friends of the deceased, to publish the same, should they think proper; and the proposition being approved by this meeting, liberty is accordingly granted for its publication —

— We appoint our friends George Bowen, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Charles R. Tucker, Benajah Buffum, Micajah C. Pratt, & Thomas S. Gifford, to render such assistance as may be needed, and to give such information as may be necessary, to friends, in regard to finding suitable accommodations for board, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay from the Treasury the sum of $169.41 for the balance of the expense incurred in furnishing our Meeting House at Newport with Cushions, for the accommodation of our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 9th of 6mo. 1860 —

Present at this time 30 members — Viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Benajah Buffum, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, & Edward Earle —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Elijah Coffin, Lindley M. Hoag, & Charles F. Coffin, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, of John E. Hill from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and of Joseph Haviland from Newyork Yearly Meeting —

The minute presented at our last meeting, in relation to the official steps to be taken by the church in liberating ministers for religious service, being again read & considered, was fully approved; and it is directed that it be laid before our Yearly Meeting — The minute is as follows — Viz —

"When a minister has a prospect of religious service, which according to our discipline, requires the unity of the Monthly Meeting, previous to its being brought to the consideration of said Meeting, let it be laid before the Preparative Meeting of Ministers and elders, held at its stated time, or specially convened for the purpose; and if the friend is encouraged, or left at liberty to do so, he should spread his concern before the ~~Monthly~~ Meeting, and that Meeting should then take full time, under a very weighty sense of its responsibility, for solid and careful deliberation before granting a Certificate — In cases requiring the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting, and said Meeting unites with the Concern, let it endorse its certificate as now required by the Discipline — And if the Concern is for a general or extensive visit, and the Quarterly Meeting shall advise that it go before the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, let it be carried there for its unity and concurrence, before the friend enters upon such religious service —

And in all cases where the concern extends to territory beyond the Rocky Mountains, let it go before the Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders in the same manner as is required when the prospect" extends to Europe or beyond the sea" —

The vital importance of the maintainance of a sound ministry, and of its being at all times exercised under the fresh annointing & renewed qualification which the Holy Spirit alone can give, has claimed our weighty and solemn consideration, and we believe it right to recommend to Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, an increase of care and solid deliberation before recording their unity with the gift and approving the public appearances in the ministry of any of our members; and that the recommendation of our discipline be carefully observed, that full time be allowed for clear evidence that the Lord hath called Him to "this weighty work" —

A testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Rowland Greene, was read & approved; and the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Samuel Boyce Clk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 13th of 6mo. 1860 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings for the coming year, viz — John Osborn, Perez Peck, David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy E. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Fry, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, Thomas S. Gifford, & Edward Earle —

Present at this time 32 members —

We appoint Samuel Boyce clerk to this meeting for the coming year —

It is concluded that the times & places for holding this meeting the coming year, be the same as last year, viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the third 5th day in the 8 month, at 4 o clk. in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day before the first 5th day, in the 2d mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

At Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 6 o clk. in the afternoon —

We have at this time the acceptable company of our Friends Lindley M. Hoag, & Charles F. Coffin, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, and of Jesse P. Haines from New York Yearly Meeting —

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay from the Treasury, the sum of Two Hundred Four Dollars, & Fifty cts, being the balance due the Committee appointed upon the subject of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting; that amount having been advanced by them for that purpose —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 15th of 8 mo. 1860 –

Present at this time 27 members – David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Benajah Buffum, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tuck Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr Thomas T. Gifford, & Edward Earle –

Satisfactory reasons are received for the absence of two of our members at this time –

This meeting being requested by our Yearly Meeting to have an edition printed of the ~~testimonies~~ testimonies now on file concerning deceased friends we appoint our Friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, William C. Taber, and Stephen A. Chase, to examine and revise said testimonies, and to cause an edition of one Thousand Copies thereof to be printed and report to this meeting, when the service is accomplished –

The committee to take into consideration the situation of the few Friends residing in Nova-Scotia, members of China Monthly Meeting whose pecuniary situation is such as to need aid, presented the following Report, viz –

"The committee appointed to consider the case of China Monthly Meeting, in respect to the relief of poor Friends residing in Nova-Scotia, but members of that monthly meeting, have considered the same; and are of the judgment, that in consideration of the great distance, from the body of Friends of that monthly meeting, at which the few Friends of Nova-Scotia reside, and the care falling upon that monthly meeting; it will be right that some assistance should be rendered to them from the Yearly Meeting; we therefore propose that from the 1st. of 1st. mo. last, 50 Dolls. per annum be allowed & paid from the Yearly meeting's Treasury, to that Monthly Meeting, until the further order of the meeting –

Lynn 8 mo. 15th. 1860 –

Stephen Jones
Stephen A. Chase
John D. Lang
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Committee"

Which being approved, is accepted; and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay from its Treasury the sum named until the further conclusion of this meeting –

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 6th of 2 mo. 1861 —

Present at this time 25 members — viz — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, William C. Taber, George Howland Jr, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Thomas S. Gifford, and Edward Earle —

Satisfactory reasons are recd. for the absence of several of the members of this meeting at this time —

The committee to have an edition printed of the testimonies of deceased friends, report that they have attended to their appointment, and have caused to be printed, free from expense to this Meeting an edition of 1000 copies, which have been distributed, among our Quarterly Meetings —

A communication from London Meeting for Sufferings, was recd. & read at this time, as follows, viz —

"To Friends of the several Yearly Meetings in North America —

Dear Friends —

Our thoughts have been afresh seriously turned, to the extensive revival of the African Slave trade — We have heard with grief and disappointment, that in the course of the last twelve months, numerous vessels have been fitted out, in ports of the United States, principally in that of Newyork and sent forth on this murderous traffic in our fellow men —

In these feelings our dear Friends in the United States have deeply partaken; and one object in now writing is to express our brotherly sympathy with you, in that any of your fellow citizens, are pursuing such an infamous Course of conduct —

It is a satisfaction to observe that the authorities in the United States are using some efforts to stop the further progress of this iniquity — But we Know that in past days, the voice of public opinion both in this country & in yours has effectually strengthened the acts of those in power —

We therefore affectionately intreat you to omit no opportunity to testify in a christian spirit with all boldness against the renewal of a traffic, which you & we had hoped was finally put an end to by your government —

Be encouraged, as the way may open before you; to plead the cause of the oppressed with the American public, with your respective Legislatures, and with the general Government at Washington —

In turning our attention to this great sin, we are again brought to feel, that so long as Slavery continues, there is reason to believe that in one form or another the Slave trade will continue to exist —

We forward to our Correspondents, Copies of the Appeal of our Yearly Meeting of 1849 — It was widely circulated a few years ago, among the members of your Several Legislatures and to others; but we are not aware that it has reached the public at large in America —

The paper contains a Statement of the case in its various bearing, and is not merely of a temporary Character — It would be a satisfaction to us if you could see your way to reprint it on our account, and circulate it widely among your citizens —

Afresh commending this deeply interesting subject to your vigilance, and christian exertions, we remain in the love of the gospel your friends and brethren —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings held in London, the 7th of the 12 mo 1860 —

Robert Alsop
Clerk"

And the address refered to in said communication has also been read; and our feelings and sympathies, have been renewedly awakened on behalf of those who are victims to the iniquities of Slavery and the Slave-trade; and after a time of solid consideration thereon, and taking into view the unsettled and alarming State of public affairs in this Land, it appeared to this meeting, that way did not open for any action thereon at this time; And the further consideration of the subject was refered to a future meeting; and the Clerk is directed to forward a copy of the foregoing minute to London Meeting for Sufferings —

A communication from the Meeting for Sufferings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, was received at this time as follows viz —

"To New England Meeting for Sufferings —

Dear friends — At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore the 17th of 12 mo 1860 —

A communication was received at our last Meeting, from our brethren of North Carolina Meeting for Sufferings, and introduced us into much feeling and concern on behalf of our dear friends of North Carolina, on account of their serious pecuniary embarrassment, and we appointed our friend Francis T. King to attend that meeting on our behalf, with a view of obtaining further information about their debt —

Our friend Elijah Coffin of Indiana was there under a similar appointment, and a joint report from them was received and read at this time, a copy of which we herewith send you —

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting —

John Scott Clk"

And after a time of deliberation thereon, the Subject was refered to our next meeting, for further consideration —

We appoint our friends George Bowen, Charles R. Tucker, David Buffum, Stephen Jones, Perez Peck, Nathan Breed, and Thomas S. Gifford, to give such information, and render such assistance as may be needed to friends in regard to finding accommodations for board at the time of our next Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 15th of 6mo. 1861 —

Present at this time 36 members — John Osborne, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David R. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Benajah Buffum, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, Thomas S. Gifford, and Edward Earle —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends John Hodgkin, from London Yearly Meeting — Joel Bean from Indiana Yearly Meeting, David Tatum from Western Yearly Meeting, Robert W. Hodson from Western Yearly Meeting, & Stephen Wood from New York Yearly Meeting —

The communication from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings received at our last meeting, has at this time again claimed our attention — And it is refered to our next meeting, for further consideration —

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, Endorsed by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Joseph Davis was received and read, & was refered to our friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, & Gilbert Congdon, for consideration, to be presented again at our next meeting —

A testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend John Meader, was received and read; and being approved, the Clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again on third day evening next at 8 o Clk –

Third day evening the 18th, met pursuant to adjournment

The committee appointed upon the subject of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting presented the following Report – Viz –

To the Meeting for Sufferings –

The committee appointed to equalize the travelling expenses of Friends who attend the Yearly Meeting Report; That the subject has had their attention annually since they were set apart for that service; and having failed to collect the sum wanted from friends, they would propose that the amount required at the present time be paid from the Treasury of the Yearly Meeting, the same as last year; And that a new apportionment be made among the several Quarterly Meetings, in which special reference be made to this subject – On behalf of the Committee

Newport 6mo. 18th. 1861 –

Stephen Jones
Charles R. Tucker

Which being read was accepted – And the subject of a new apportionment is referred to our Yearly Meeting – And we appoint our friends, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, and Stephen Jones, to draw from the Treasury, and pay out the present year such sums as may be needed for the purpose of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends in attendance of our Yearly Meeting, in accordance with the arrangements made in the 6mo – 1857 –

The committee to consider the testimony concerning our late beloved friend Joseph Davis, at this time presented it; and being again read it was approved, and the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting –

The communication from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, concerning North Carolina Boarding School, has at this time again claimed our consideration; and after a time of deliberation thereon it is concluded to propose to propose to the Yearly Meeting that 1000 Dollars be appropriated & paid to North Carolina Yearly, towards liquidating the debt of the Boarding School, when it shall be ascertained that a sufficient sum can be obtained by that Yearly Meeting to pay the whole debt –

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 20th of 6mo. 1861 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings who composed it last year. viz — John Osborne, David Buffum Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor Jr, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion. Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin. Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland Jr. Alden Sampson. William A. Robinson Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon. Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, Thomas S. Gifford, and Edward Earle — Present at this time 26 members. viz — John Osborne & Others —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk of this meeting for the coming year —

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year be as follows. viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the third 5th day, in the 8mo — at 4 o clk in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day, before the first 5th day in the 2 mo — at 3 o clk. in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the time of holding our Yearly Meeting at 6 o clk in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 14th of 8 mo — 1861 —

Present at this time 17 members viz — David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, and Edward Earle –

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friend Wm H. Chase from New York Yearly Meeting –

We are at this time informed that the proposition made by this Meeting, to our Yearly Meeting for the appropriation of 1000 Dolls towards the liquidation of the debt of North Carolina Boarding School, when a sufficient sum can be obtained to liquidate the whole of said debt, was approved, and the appropriation made – and the clerk is directed to forward the information to Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, by sending them the necessary Extracts from this minute –

Our correspondents for London Yearly Meeting, inform, that they have received a Communication from the correspondents of said Yearly Meeting calling their attention to an Epistle from London Yearly Meeting, addressed to Friends in North America, a copy of which accompanied said communication, & asking them to take such measures as might give immediate circulation thereto –

And believing that good would result from the spread of said Epistle our correspondents have caused an Edition of 2500 copies to be printed for circulation among friends; which meets the approbatio of this Meeting –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 5th of 2mo 1862 Present at this time 26 members, Viz – David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr. Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, George Bowen Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, and Edward Earle –

The following communication has at this time been laid before us, by our Correspondents for London Yearly Meeting – Viz –

"London 12 mo 14th – 1861

Dear Friend –

Herewith thou wilt receive the Copy of a memoria addressed by our Meeting for Sufferings, to the two leading members of ou Government, in relation to the circumstances in which your Country and ou are unhappily involved –

It will be seen that in this Memorial we have given our ministers to understand that we should ask our Friends in the United States, to exercise their influence with their Government, in the present Crisis –

Unless in the interval there be a favourable change in the aspect of affairs, we would venture to suggest in the event of your Meeting for Sufferings not meeting soon in regular Course, that as many of its members as can conveniently assemble be promptly called together, with the view of determining on such action, in respect both to your Government and to others in authority, as well as the community at large as circumstances may appear to call for —

Signed on behalf of the committee charged with the presentation & circulation of the Memorial —

Signed
Josiah Forster
Robert Forster
Samuel Fox
John Hodgkin"

The Memorial is as follows viz —

"Copy of a Memorial of the Religious Society of Friends, on the impending difficulties between Great Britain and the United States of America —

To Viscount Palmerson, First Lord of the Treasury, and Earl Russell Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs —

The undersigned, acting on behalf of the Society of Friends throughout Great Britain, request the considerate attention of the First Lord of the Treasury, and the Foreign Secretary, to a few observations on the present critical aspect of affairs between this country and the United States of North America, offered as they are under a strong sense of religious duty —

We have on former occasions, so fully stated our conviction that all war is ~~inconsistent~~ unlawful for the christian, that it is needless now to repeat it — But there are circumstances connected with the present difficulties between the two countries of so marked a character, as in our apprehension, to justify this special appeal to the Government —

There are perhaps no two independent nations on the face of the earth so closely united together as England and America, by the combined ties of blood, of language, of religion, of constitutional freedom, & of commercial interest; and no two nations between whom a war would be a more open scandal to our common christianity, or a more serious injury, to the welfare and progress of the human race —

The hatred of a brother when once offended is a proverb — Nor were the feelings which existed between England and America, after the war of Independence & the war respecting the rights of Neutrals by any means an exception to this proverbial truth — By degrees, however, animosity and mutua suspicion subsided — The reciprocal visits of enlightened travellers, the vast increase of commercial relations, and the healthy emulation in christian philanthropy, in science and in literature were, under the Divine blessing, producing an improved tone of both personal & national feeling, when at length in 1860, the visit of the heir apparent of the British throne to the United States, seemed to complete the entente cordiale between the two countries — It is little more than twelve months since English subjects and American citizens were alike rejoicing in this healthy condition of the relations between these two great divisions of the Anglo-Saxon race —

(Now however with sadness of heart we see all this sorrowfully changed, and a question of international law, which if it could be submitted to a competent tribunal of able jurists, whether European or American, or to the mediation or arbitrament of any independent State, might probably in a few hours be settled to the satisfaction of all parties, appears to be in imminent danger of occasioning a vast destruction of human life, a prodigious waste of treasure, a total interruption of trade and social intercourse, and an incalculable amount of moral evil; whilst it is just as impossible, in the nature of things, for the question of right or wrong to be really cleared up by such an appeal to the sword, as it was for the guilt or innocence of the accused, in mediaeval times, to be settled by the wager of battle or the passage over burning ploughshares —

Under these circumstances we look with confidence to the Government and legal advisers of our beloved Queen, fully believing that it is their honest desire that so awful and so unnecessary a calamity — we might say so great a national sin — as a war with America should be averted —
In this confidence we are emboldened respectfully to ask, whether it is not possible to use the interval which must necessarily elapse between the transmission of the views of the British Cabinet to Washington and the arrival of the reply, in preparing so to meet that reply, (whatever it may be) that the next step may not be a declaration of war, but the putting of the remaining issue, if any, between the two countries in train for a pacific decision —

We rejoice to see the principle of Arbitration strongly recommende by the Plenipotentiaries of the European Powers who were parties to the Treaty of Paris — Where a prospective provision of this kind exists in international Treaties, any difficulty which may arise, would naturally take the course thus prescribed for its settlement, before the question of right becomes merged in the storm of passion — And though there may be no such prospective provision applicable to the present difficulty, we would respectfully submit that it may not be too late for our Government, strong in the consciousness of right, to propose such a reference, should the reply from Washington not effect the happy and peaceful termination of the dispute —

There are many circumstances in the present position of England which enable her to maintain a perfectly temperate and conciliatory attitude; and would it not seem ungenerous to drive matters to extremities with the United States, at the time when they are engaged in a struggle for their national integrity, if not for their national existence? May we then as Christians appeal to the enlightened rulers of this highly professing Christian country; imploring them, whilst commendably vigilant for the interests and the character of England, to endeavour to follow out the gospel rule, of doing as they would be done by, — a rule not less binding on nations than on individuals —

But though we thus address those whose counsels direct the State and with whom may rest the final decision for Peace or for War, we are well aware that much depends upon the avoidance of all exasperated feeling, on the part of the public at large, often too ready to encourage a war at the first outbreak of difficulties; and we greatly desire that a thouraughly pacific temper may be maintained and increase amongst us as a nation, and especially that it may be promoted by all those who profess to preach the Gospel of Peace — There may have been words as well as deeds on the part of the Government or the people of the United States which have tried the temper and the patience both of our Statesman and of our fellow-countrymen generally, but it is surely more truly dignified, as well as more truly christian, to meet provocation with a calm reference to law, than to exhibit a retaliatory spirit —

We would further suggest that after the vast sacrifices which England has made for the abolition of the Slave trade and Slavery in our own possessions, and by other countries, which has been an object so consistently promoted through life by the Statesman whom we are now addressing, it would be deeply humiliating if, by being involved in this war, our country should ultimately find itself in active co-operation with the South and Slavery, against the North & Freedom; though in saying this we do not intend to express our approval in all respects, of the course pursued by the North in reference to Slavery —

We may perhaps be permitted to mention as an additional reason for our strong advocacy of the preservation of Peace with America, that as the principal founders of two of its states, and many of the original settlers of other States, were our bretheren in religious profession, between whom and ourselves a cordial correspondence has been maintained for nearly two centuries, we have a special religious as well as national interest in the question — And though the Government of those States has long passed into less pacific hands, yet our bretheren there, still have a considerable influence on their State legislatures, and their voice has often been heard with effect at Washington — We shall therefore at once apprize our American Friends of the step which we have now taken, and shall urge them also to use their influence in furtherance of the cause of Peace —

May He who still ruleth in the earth, by his Providence as well as by his grace, grant that the wisdom which is from above, and which is pure, peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, may so prevail in the councils of the two Governments, and in the hearts of the people, that the impending scourge of War may be averted from the kindred nations on each side of the Atlantic, and from the waters of that ocean, which should unite, rather than divide them —

London the 9th of Twelfth Month 1861

On the reading of the foregoing Memorial, we have been brought into near and tender unity with our beloved friends of Great Britain in their exercise and concern, that hostilities between their Government and ours, may be averted, that every thing tending thereto, and all causes thereof be removed, and that Peace with all its blessings be continued between the two nations —

We most cordially unite with the sentiments contained in the Memorial, and with the proceedings of our Friends of London Yearly Meeting, in spreading it before the two leading members of their Government, and we trust that a blessing has attended their labours — The immediate cause of our mutual concern being as we believe removed by the response of our Government to theirs, it was not deemed requisite to call a special Meeting of our meeting for Sufferings to consider the subject, but we believe that usefulness has resulted from the presentation of the memorial to our our President by our bretheren of another Yearly Meeting, and from our giving it publicity in some of the leading journals of the day —

This Meeting being desirous of expressing our approbation of the course pursued ~~by the course pursued~~ by our Government in regard to the late difficulty between the two nations, believes it right to memorialize our President, with a further view of encouraging the Government to adopt every measure in its power to preserve Peace with all nations – The following Memorial has been prepared for that purpose – Viz –

To Abraham Lincoln President of the United States –

Assembled for the discharge of the duties that devolve upon us, as Representatives of the Society of Friends in New England, we have not failed to be deeply concerned for our beloved Country, and believe it right for us with much respect briefly to address the Head of the Government –

It is well known that as a religious body, we have ever believed that all war is inconsistent with the teachings of the Prince of Peace the Saviour of the world, the living King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, at whose coming the angels sung the Heavenly Anthem, Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will to men – And while steadfastly maintaining this doctrine wherever situated, and in some parts of the world enduring much suffering in its defence, we have ever been a loyal people, under whatever Government placed, engaged to maintain the civil authority, not shrinking from any burden which its support might rightfully impose –

Upon the accession of President Lincoln to the high and very responsible place he now occupies, our sympathy for him was deep and sincere on account of the distracted condition of the nation – Several of the States denying the just powers of the General Government, and repudiating the allegiance due to it – And fervent have been our desires, and prayers, that the President might be engaged to seek that wisdom from on high which directeth aright, and be strengthened to discharge his whole duty to God, and to his fellow-men –

Of recent time we were anxiously concerned in consequence of the attitude assumed by England towards the United States, indicating that the two countries might be involved in the fearful calamity of war with each other, and we trust the President will not deem it impertinent or obtrusive in us to express our full approbation, and grateful appreciation of the wise and dignified course pursued by him and his cabinet on that occasion –

It may be that in our relation to foreign powers, in the present time of general excitement, future troubles may arise, the solution of which may require the exercise of much delicacy and forbearance, and we would most kindly and earnestly entreat our much respected President to use every means which becomes an enlightened christian nation to preserve peace, and prevent the shedding of blood – And if in any case direct negotiation fail, that the question be referred to the decision of some disinterested tribunal instead of resorting to the awful arbitrament of the sword — May the blessing of Heaven rest upon the President — May he find Divine Guidance through the many difficulties in which he is involved, and at the close of his official duties be enabled to review his course with the consciousness that he has been engaged firmly and uprightly, in the fear of God to do justice to all —

"Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called the children of God" —

Signed on behalf and by direction of a meeting of the Representatives of the Society of Friends for New-England, held at Providence Rhode-Island, the 5th of Second Month, 1862" —

Which being read and approved, the Clerk is directed to sign on our behalf — And we appoint our Friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, and William A. Robinson, a committee to proceed to Washington, and present the memorial to our President —

Our Correspondents are requested to inform the committee of London Meeting for Sufferings, of the reception of the communication from them, and of the disposal thereof by this meeting and of the action of this meeting in regard to memorializing the President —

This meeting being informed that the militia laws in some of the ~~States~~ within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, are about being revised, we appoint Stephen A Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, George Howland Junr, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Thomas Harkness, Ebenezer Frye, Stephen Beede, David K. Akin, and Samuel Taylor Jr, to take such care as may be necessary, in order for a continuance of the exemption of Friends from Military requisitions —

We appoint our Friends George Bowen, Micajah C. Pratt, David Buffum, Stephen Jones, Richard Battey, Perry Peck, and Charles R. Tucker, a committee to render such assistance, and to give such advice as may be needed by Friends, in regard to their finding suitable accommodation for board, at the time of our next Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport. 14th of 6mo — 1862 —

Present at this time 27 members Viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington Jr, & Edward Earle — ×

The committee appointed to proceed to Washington, and present the Memorial of this Meeting to the President, presented the following report, Viz — "To the Meeting for Sufferings" —

"Agreeably to our appointment we proceeded to Washington and without delay, through the kindness of the Vice President of the United States, were introduced to the President and read to him the Memorial which we were directed to present — He expressed his gratitude to the society of Friends for this manifestation of their kindness and sympathy — We left with him a copy of the document duly attested by the clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, and have since received the communication which we herewith present — The President received us with great cordiality, and our interview with him was highly satisfactory —

William A Robinson
John D. Lang
Providence 5 mo. 5. 1862 — Samuel Boyd Tobey "

The letter from the President, refered to in the Report, has been read, and is as follows. Viz —

"Executive Mansion,
Washington March 19th 1862.

Dr Samuel Boyd Tobey
My dear Sir —

A domestic affliction of which doubtless you are informed, has delayed me so long in making acknowledgement for the very kind and appropriate letter signed on behalf, and by direction of a Meeting of the Representatives of the society of Friends for New-England, held at Providence, Rhode-Island the 8th of the Second Month, 1862 by Samuel Boyce Clerk, and presented to me by Yourself and associates —

Engaged as I am, in a great war, I fear it will be difficult for the world to understand how fully I appreciate the principles of peace, inculcated in this letter, and everywhere, by the Society of Friends;

Grateful to the good people you represent, for their prayers in behalf of our common country, I look forward hopefully to an early end of war, and return of peace –

Your obliged friend –

A. Lincoln"

Our Correspondents for London Yearly Meeting inform that in accordance with the request of this meeting, they have given the correspondents of London Yearly Meeting, information of the reception of the communication from them, and of the disposal thereof by this meeting, & of the action of this Meeting in regard to Memorializing the President –

The committee appointed at our last meeting to take such care as might appear necessary in order for a continuance to Friends of exemption from military requisitions, inform that they have endeavoured to give such attention thereto as appeared needful; and that so far, no disposition has been manifested, since their appointment, to deprive Friends of any of the priveleges heretofore granted them in this respect –

In the Legislature of the State of Maine a feeling is prevalent which would favour the extension more fully, of these priveleges to members of our Society –

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our Yearly Meeting –

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting –

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Samuel Boyce Clerk

+

Our beloved Friends William Greene from Dublin Yearly Meeting; William Cromwell, & John J. Thomas, from Newyork Yearly Meeting; Joseph Hobson, from Ohio Yearly Meeting; John Henry Douglas, from Indiana Yearly Meeting; and William G. Johnson, from Western Yearly Meeting, are acceptably with us at this time –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 18th of 6mo 1862 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, with the exception of our dear friends, John Osborn Benajah Buffum, and Thomas S. Gifford deceased —

Samuel Boyce is appointed clerk of this meeting for the ensuing year —

Present at this time 26 members — viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, & Edward Earle —

It is concluded that the times and places, for holding this meeting the coming year, be the same as last year, viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3rd 5th day in the 8mo — at 4 o clk. in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day, in the 2nd mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day, previous to the time of holding our Yearly Meeting, at 6 o clk in the afternoon —

Friends of New Bedford Monthly Meeting having applied to this Meeting for advice in regard to the course to be pursued in order to obtain a legal title to a portion of real estate, belonging to that Meeting, and this Meeting having considered the subject, it is our conclusion, that that Monthly Meeting, be left at liberty, to take such measures as they may deem proper, under the advisement, of our friends, David Buffum, Stephen A. Chase, & Samuel Boyce, in order to obtain a legal title to said estate, provided it does not involve them, in a protracted suit at law —

The subject of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting, claiming our attention at this time, we appoint our Friends Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed of Lynn, and Ebenezer Frye to draw from the Treasury, such sums as may be needed, for the purpose of equalizing said travelling expenses of Friends now in attendance of the Yearly Meeting, in accordance with the arrangements made in the 6mo — 1857 —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 20th of 8mo. 1862

Present at this time 23 members. viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, and Edward Earle —

The present sorrowful condition of our country in consequence of its being involved in civil war claiming our consideration, and apprehension being entertained that a legislation in some of the States may take place which will tend to bring friends into suffering by requiring of them military service, this meeting has been brought into exercise & concern on account thereof, and desires are felt that we may be preserved from compromising in any way, our testimony against all wars & fightings — And we appoint our Friends Dani Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Joseph Metcalf, Stephen A. Chase, Gilbert Congdon, Samuel Boyce, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, Charles R. Tucker, John D. Lang, Richard Battey, Stephen Jones, William A. Robinson, Newell Hoxie, Nathan Breed, Tobias Meader, Thomas Harknes Timothy C. Collins, John Page, Edward Earle, Stephen Beede, Moses Huntington George Howland, and Alden Sampson, to take such care as may be necessary, in order for a continuance to Friends, of exemption from military requisitions; and any Friend or Friends who may be brought into suffering, in consequence of such service being demanded of them, are desired to consult & advise with said committee —

The payment of taxes levied upon us, for the increase of public revenue has at this time claimed our consideration; and we would encourage Friends cheerfully to comply with the requisitions of our discipline in regard to being punctual in the payment of every tribute which they can justly do, without attempting to make any impracticable distinctions respecting such taxes as may be imposed upon them for the support of our Government —

Adjourned to meet again at Providence on 3d day the 11th of 11th mo, at 2 o. clk. in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence by adjournment, 11th of 11mo. 1862 — Present at this time 20 members — viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, William A Robinson Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Woxie, and David Kelly —

The committee to extend such care as might appear necessary in regar to the exemption of Friends from military requisitions at this time report, that a special session of the General assembly of Rhode-Island, was held soon after the last Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, and the Committe gave prompt attention to their appointment, in endeavouring to have continued to Friends the immunity they had for many years enjoyed of entire exemption from military requirements — and an act was passed accordingly wholly exempting our members upon their presenting to the prop or official a certificate of membership signed by the clerk or two of the overseers of the Monthly Meeting to which they belonged — At a subsequent period and near the close of the assembly, an act was suddenly passed repealing the privelege granted to Friends & others, who had been previously exempted by State authority — It was a time of much excitement, & the committee are not without hope, that at the next meeting of the Legislature, an act favourable to Friends may be obtained

The committee further reported, that attention had been given to their appointment in other parts of our Yearly Meeting, where it was deemed necessary; all of which is satisfactory to the meeting; and the committee are continued, and desired to give such further attention thereto, as may appear needful —

The following communication from the Representative Meeting of Newyork, was at this time recd. viz —

"At a Special Representative Meeting, held in NewYork, 24th. of 10 mo. 1862 —

An Address to the members of this Yearly Meeting in relation to the coulered Refugees, was presented, and being approved, it was directed to be printed, and copies transmitted to the Quarterly & Monthly Meetings — A committee was appointed to attend to the distribution of the Address, & they were instructed to correspond with the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings, informing them of the action taken by this Meeting — to forward copies of the Address to them, & invite their attention to this interesting subject — The following Friends were appointed said committee;

Benjamin Tatham, Henry Dickinson, Robert Lindley Murray, Edmund H. Prior, Edward Tatum, Stephen Wood of NewYork, William Cromwell, Edmund Titus, William Wood, and William B. Collins —

The committee were directed to extend the necessary care in carrying out the objects contemplated in the Address, to keep full records of their proceedings, and report the same to this meeting —

William Wood Clerk"

Which with the address has been read; and this meeting cordially responds to the feeling of sympathy therein expressed for the coloured refugees, and in the desire to aid & encourage them in such pursuits, and in that course of life, which will tend to promote their comfort and usefulness —

We feel thankful in believing that much has been done, and is still doing in New-England for their help, & we would encourage Friends to contribute for their relief, as in their freedom they may deem proper —

And the clerk is requested to procure a suitable number of copies of the Address, for circulation in our Yearly Meeting, & to append thereto the foregoing minute, & forward them to our Quarterly & Monthly Meetings for distribution —

The clerk is also directed to furnish the Representative Meeting of Newyork, with a copy of the above Minute —

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting informs, that he has paid over to Friends authorized to receive the same, the sum of One Thousand Dollars, appropriated by our Yearly Meeting, for the purpose of aiding in the liquidation of the debt, against the Boarding School of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, and that the whole debt is now cancelled; which is satisfactory to the Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 4th of 2mo. 1863 —

Present 22 members, viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, & Edward Earle —

The committee to take such care as might be needful, in regard to the exemption of Friends from military requisitions inform that they have given attention thereto; and the Legislature of Rhode-Island being now in session, they would propose that this meeting petition that body, that the privelege of exemption from military requisitions heretofore granted Friends, should be restored to them; and with that view they have prepared a memorial to said Legislature which has been read & approved, & the members of the committee from Rhode-Island are requested to sign the same, and present it at a suitable time —

The Memorial is as follows — viz —

"To the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of Rhode-Island now assembled in Providence —

The Memorial of the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in New-England, respectfully showeth —

That the Society of Friends from the time of its origin, now more than two hundred Years, have ever believed that all war is inconsistent with the teachings of the Gospel — that we are not at liberty to resort to the sword but rather to trust in the living God — That this fundamental doctrine in their faith has been sacredly upheld by them, in some countries under much suffering, and even with the sacrifice of their lives.

They gratefully acknowledge their thankfulness, that in this country generally, and especially in the State of Rhode-Island where liberty of conscience has been so carefully regarded, in its legislation, that it constitutes a prominent and most honourable feature, in its history, they have long enjoyed perfect freedom from military requisitions — They believe it will be accorded to them that they are and have ever been a loyal people, not shrinking from bearing their part in all the burdens of civil Government, cheerfully complying with all its requisitions, which did not conflict with their conscientious convictions in regard to war, and always condemning any attempt to lessen or disregard its just authority.

They would further represent, that the military law enacted at the last session of the General Assembly, will necessarily subject them & others who are conscientious against bearing arms, to much suffering, as they cannot consistently pay a fine in lieu of performing military service — and they therefore earnestly petition you to enact a law which shall relieve from military requirements all who shall give evidence satisfactory to such tribunal as in your wisdom you may appoint, that they are sincerely conscientious against bearing arms — May wisdom from on high be granted you in your deliberations, and the blessing of Heaven rest on your decisions —

Providence 2 mo 4th 1863 } Signed

Joseph Metcalf
Perez Peck
David Buffum
W. A. Robinson
George Bowen
Gilbert Congdon
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Thomas Harkness

And the committee are continued; and they are desired to extend such further care, in regard to the exemption of friends from military requirements as may be necessary — And Perez Peck, George Bowen, & Samuel Taylor are added to the committee —

The clerk informs that he has attended to the procuring of the Address of the Representative Meeting of Newyork, and that copies thereof have been forwarded to our Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, with the minute of this Meeting annexed —

Several subjects relative to the promotion of our principles, and the faithful maintainance of our testimonies, have claimed our solid consideration at this time —.

Adjourned to meet again at this place on 3d day afternoon the 24th of 3 mo. at 2 o clk —

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence by adjournment the 24th of 3 mo. 1863 —

Present at this time 14 members — viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Harkness, Stephen A Chase, Wm C. Taber, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, & Edward Earle —

The committee to take such care as might be necessary in regard to the continuance to Friends, of exemption from military requisitions, inform that having seen, that a bill had been reported to the Legislature of Massachusetts, by which the privelege of the exemption of Friends from military requirements would be lost; a part of their number met together, and prepared a Memorial to said Legislature, which was presented, read, & printed, and laid before the members of that body —

They also had an interview with the chairman of the committee from which said bill emanated, who informed them that in drawing up the bill there was no intention of taking away the privelege of exemption which has long been extended to Friends — This bill was laid upon the table; and the committee on military affairs reported a bill, which they had prepared, in which sufficient provision was made for members of our Society — The bill last mentioned is now under consideration — The committee also had an interview with the chairman of the committee who reported this bill; and he manifested strong desires, that the conscientious scruples of Friends should be duly regarded —

The memorial refered to, is as follows. viz —

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled —

The Memorial of the undersigned, for and on behalf of the

Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, residing within the New-England States, respectfully represents —

That they have observed that a bill, reported by a committee of your body, is now before the Legislature, entitled a bill relating to the Enrolment of the Militia, by the operation of which if enacted into a law, the members of the Society of Friends, of the requisite age and ability, will be liable to be enrolled in the militia —

Your Memorialists would respectfully call to mind, the uniform course of the Legislation of Massachusetts, touching the conscientious scruples of the Society, on whose behalf they now memorialize, and for this purpose would present anew an extract from a Memorial presented to the General Court, in the year 1841, as follows, viz —

"In contrast with the sufferings which were endured, in the earlier days of the Society, on account of a faithful adherence on the part of its members, to their belief in the peaceable nature of the Christian dispensation, we trust we shall ever hold in grateful remembrance, the respect which has been paid by the Government of Massachusetts for a series of years, to our well known conscientious scruples in regard to bearing arms; and we would state as the result of enquiries directed to this subject, that as early as the year 1763, a special act was passed by the provincial Legislature, 'for exempting the people called Quakers, from the penalty of the law for non-attendance on military musters;' — That in an act passed in 1776, 'providing for a reinforcement of the American Army,' it was provided, that those persons who had before the 19th day of April 1775. (the day of Lexington fight.) been by law deemed to be of the denomination of Christians called Quakers, shall not be held to take up arms, or procure any person to do it in their room; That, 'an act for continuing Sundry Laws,' that were then near expiring, was passed in 1779, by which the above recited act of 1763, was continued in force till the year 1785 —

For which several acts we would refer to the volume of colony & province laws, printed in 1814, pages 653, 708, & 802) — And we have further ascertained, that in every succeeding revision of the laws relating to the militia previous to the last, (unless an act passed in the year 1792, and repealed in the year following be an exception,) regard has been had to the conscientious scruples of the members of the Society" —

Your Memorialists would further represent, that since the year 1841 — when the memorial from which the above extract is taken was presented to the Legislature — the same indulgence has been extended by law —

The Society of Friends during all its history, has uniformly adhered to their testimony against war, and to the peaceable nature of the christian religion, and borne the same in numerous instances amid much suffering —

This testimony is still dear to them, and they dare not compromise it, believing it laid upon them, by an authority higher than man — even by Him whose right it is to rule in the Kingdoms of the earth, and in the hearts of men —

Your Memorialists would further respectfully represent, that by religious persuasion, the members of the Society are bound to be a loyal people, faithful Subjects, of the Government placed over them in the ordering of Divine Providence, and fulfilling the duties required of them as such, so far as their allegiance to the King of Kings will permit — and quietly suffering, where suffering results from conscientiously maintaining their paramount duty to their Sovereign Lord, and they consider the present unholy rebellion as a wicked attempt to destroy the Government under which they, in common with the people of our countrey have been so long blessed and protected in all their rights —

Your Memorialists would therefore respectfully petition that the Legislation of Massachusetts by which the Society of Friends, has been exempted from military requisitions uniformly continued, with the exceptions mentioned herein for a hundred years, may not now be changed, consonant as it is & has been with the rights of conscience, & with the enlightened sentiment of our fellow citizens, and with the Bill of rights of the Constitution of our Government —

We fervently desire that the blessing of Providence may rest upon our rulers, and that peace may once more be the lot of our beloved Countrey —

Signed —

Stephen A. Chase.
Wm. C. Taber.
Nathan Breed.
David K. Akin.
Geo. Howland, junr.
Edw Earle.
Samuel Boyce."

Boston 3d Mo. 9th. 1863 —

The Committee further inform, that in the Legislature of Maine, a proposition was made, by which Friends of that State would have lost the privelege of exemption from Military requirements, which has heretofore been granted them — But, as they apprehend, by the timely care of members of the committee, and of other Friends, the privelege is still continued to them —

The committee also inform, that the Memorial prepared by this Meeting in the 2 mo. last, was signed as directed, & presented to the Senate of the State of Rhode-Island, & there postponed to the session of the Legislature, to be held in the 5 mo. next — All of which movements on the part of the committee are satisfactory to the Meeting; and they are continued, and are requested to give such further attention to the subject, as may be needful —

We appoint our Friends George Bowen, David Buffum, Perez Peck, Charles R. Tucker, & John S. Lang, to take such care as may be necessary, in regard to advising & aiding Friends, in their obtaining accommodations for board while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

The following minute of advice & encouragement to our members having been prepared, read, and approved, the clerk is directed to sign the same on our behalf, & cause 3000 copies thereof to be printed, and to forward the same, to our Subordinate meetings for distribution amongst our members — viz —

"In seasons of adversity and trial it becomes brethren to sympathize one with another; to pray one for another; and so far as may be to bear the burdens one of another and thus "fulfill the law of Christ"

Assembled as we now are and engaged, in this time of calamity when the desolating scourge of war is upon our country, to know what is required at our hands, we have felt drawn in much tenderness, towards our beloved fellow members of this Yearly Meeting, with fervent desires to strengthen them to be stedfast and immoveable in doing the work of the Lord, and in obeying the precepts & teaching of the blessed Saviour, of Him at whose advent a multitude of the Heavenly Host praised "God saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men." In these Heavenly strains was the birth of Christ celebrated by the Angels — To establish peace on earth was one of the purposes for which he left the bosom of the father, took upon him the form of a servant and dwelt among men — In all his teachings, and all the declarations of the glad tidings both by inspired men and by angels, peace, peace is proclaimed —

For our present object it may not be necessary for us to recite the full and explicit commands, by which as a religious Society, we have ever felt bound unequivocally to bear our testimony against all war, under whatever provocation or temptation; and in support thereof much suffering has been endured; many sacrifices have been made; many afflictions have been borne by our forefathers in the truth - but the Lord delivered out of them all —

In our own favoured land in time past, liberty of conscience, with little exception, has been held sacred by our legislators, & few of our members of the present generation have suffered either in person or estate, on account of our christian principles — It is possible that in our entire freedom we have not always all of us been so consistent in maintaining, so concerned in upholding this testimony before our fellow-men; so engaged that our light should shine in their presence as to produce conviction on their minds of the depth and sacredness of this vital testimony in their hearts — We have not perhaps always shown that our trust for preservation was placed on the Lord Almighty, and not on the strength of man - and it may be that we shall yet be required to suffer for Christ's sake in the support of peace — But will we shrink from suffering, if thereby we maintain a conscience void of offence toward God and man ? —

We tenderly entreat and exhort our dear young men not to violate or disregard a conscientious scruple - Trust in God - He is a present help in the time of need — They who love Him never yet sought his face in vain - His name is a strong tower into which all these may run & find safety - Even if assailed be courteous to all, & manifest a meek & quiet spirit with that love which becomes followers of Jesus; and thus you may turn away all wrath and bring others to serious reflection and peradventure be instrumental in winning them to Christ — Avoid all contention and excitement and all unprofitable discussion of the measures adopted by the Rulers of our nation now in power — While you love your country and are ready to relieve the sufferings of your fellow men, by every means in your power, you may best promote your country's good by putting up your prayers for its preservation, and for the restoration of peace within all its borders —

And our elder bretheren we entreat to watch over the younger in tender love — Keep near them — Counsel them for good — Endeavour to lighten their burdens should they be involved in trials — Remind them of the sure promises of God, to all that put their trust in Him — Go with them into suffering if suffering should be their lot. Let it be seen of all men that the love of christ binds us together —

While we believe it right for us thus to express our feelings and our deep concern, and to exhort all to unswerving faithfulness, we are comforted with an abiding faith, that we shall not be tried beyond what we are able to bear, but that a way of escape, and relief will be provided by Him, who hath power to turn the hearts of the children of men as one turneth the water course in his field, and who is most honored when most trusted — best pleased when best obeyed" —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 13th of 6mo 1863 — Present at this time 25 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Nathan Breed, & Edward Earle —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Thomas Smith & William H. Chase from New York Yearly Meeting; Edward Jenkins & John C. Hill from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and Elwood Osborne, from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at this time, of two of the members of this meeting —

The clerk informs that in accordance with the direction of this meeting he has caused 3000 copies of the minute of advice issued last month, to be printed & sent down to our subordinate Meetings for distribution —

The Committee to take such care as might be needful in regard to the continuance to Friends of exemption from military requisitions inform that near the close of the last session of the Legislature of Mass, a bill was hastily passed, by which the exemption of Friends by law from enrollment was taken away, & Friends in common with others, are now liable thereto — They further inform, that some of the Committee having ascertained in the 9mo last, that there were members of our Society in Mass — who had been enrolled as constituting a part of the Militia of the State, who from divers causes had not obtained the certificates needful in order for their exemption, it was considered advisable, that some action should be taken for their relief — A Memorial was therefore prepared & presented to Governor Andrew, requesting relief in the premises, for this class of our members — The Memorial is as follows viz —

"To John A. Andrew, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

Respected Friend — The undersigned of a Committee, appointed by the Representative body, of the Society of Friends, called Quakers, in New-England. Respectfully represent —

That a new enrollment of able bodied persons between the ages of 18 & 45 in this Commonwealth on the fourth day of the Eight month, called August, last, having been ordered, for the purpose of ascertaining who of them are liable to be subjected to military requisitions; and we thy memorialists being desirous, that the exemption which by the favour of the Government has so long been accorded to Friends may be carried into effect — Respectfully pray the Governor, that such instructions may be given to the Commissioners who have charge of considering applications for exemption, as shall insure the exemption of those members of the Society, as shall produce, or have produced the certificates required by law, since the time fixed by Statute for their annual production — for the following reasons. viz —

1st. That, members of the Society have changed their place of residence, and the Meeting of Friends to which they belong since that time, and must produce their certificates from the meetings to which they have removed, & present them to the officers of their new locality —

2d. We apprehend there may be localities, where the members of the Society were so well known to the authorities, that they have from year to year, been omitted from the annual enrollment, without producing the certificate required by the Statute — But now all persons of the required bodily ability and age, being required to be enrolled, such persons although coming within the Spirit and intent of the exemption provided by the Statute, that is, orderly members of the Society of Friends, and conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, are included; and unless certificates in legal form are now received as exempting them may be subject to suffering for conscience sake, from which the spirit & intent of the law exempts them —

Thy memorialists respectfully pray relief in the premises, in the way indicated, or in such other manner as the Governor may deem meet —

With sentiments of loyalty to the Government under which it is our privelege to live in the ordering of Divine Providence, and & of respect to the Governor of our Commonwealth, we remain —

thy friends — Stephen A. Chase
Samuel C Boyce
William Tuel"

This memorial was forwarded to the War department at Washington, & reached there on the day, when several Friends from other Yearly Meetings were having an interview with that department, in order to obtain relief for young Friends who had been drafted for the War — The sufferings into which Friends were liable to be brought received the favourable consideration of that department, and provision was made for their relief, as will appear by the following letter to Governor Andrew which was forwarded to the Committee viz —

"War Department
Washington City. D. C.
September 20 — 1862.

His Excellency
John A. Andrew
Governor of Massachusetts.

Sir — In reply to yours transmitting the letter of Stephen A. Chase & others concerning the exemption of Quakers from draft for military duty, I am directed to say that they cannot be exempted from draft by this department, but any one that is drafted may subscribe, & take the enclosed oath or affirmation, and transmit it to this department with proper testimony, as to the standing of the party, and an order will be made relieving him from military duty —

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
C. P. Buckingham
Brig. Gen A. A. G."

A form of affirmation refered to in the above letter, was also received —

The committee have also endeavoured to give such further attention to the subject as appeared needful —

All of which is satisfactory to the meeting —

This Meeting continues to feel deeply exercised, in view of the present state of the country, and the existing laws of the Government in relation to military matters, & we appoint our friends. Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Taylor William A. Robinson, John Page, Stephen Jones, William C. Taber, Perez Peck, Alden Sampson, Edward Earle, David K. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, Stephen Breed, Richard Battey, Charles R. Tucker, Gilbert Congdon, Ebenezer Frye, Nathan Breed, Tobias Meader, Henry M Minott & Timothy

C. Collins, to extend aid, counsel, and sympathy, should any case arise in which they may be usefully rendered to any of our dear friends who may be brought into embarrassment or suffering—

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting, before our Yearly Meeting—

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting—

Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 18th of 6mo. 1863—

By the Clerk of our Yearly Meeting we are informed, that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year. viz— David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, and Edward Earle—

Present at this time 27 members—

We appoint Samuel Boyce clerk of this meeting for the ensuing year—

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this Meeting the coming year be the same as last year viz—

At Lynn on 4th day, before the 3d 5th day in the 8 mo. at 4 o clk in the afternoon—

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo— at 3 o clk. in the afternoon—

And at Newport on 7th day, previous to the commencement of the Yearly Meeting, at 6 o clk in the afternoon—

At a Special Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, held in Boston 7mo. 30th 1863—

The clerk informs that in accordance with the following request he has called this Meeting— viz—

"To Samuel Boyce clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings—

Believing that circumstances exist which require the attention & care of our Meeting for Sufferings, wilt thou call a Special Meeting of that body, to be held in Boston, the 30th of the present month, at 11o clk A.M. —

7mo 1863 — Signed — Stephen A. Chase
Nathan Breed
Wm C. Taber
Alden Sampson
Stephen Jones
John Page
Gilbert Congdon
John D. Lang
Wm A. Robinson
Edward Earle"

Present 20 members viz David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, Gilbert Congdon, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, & Edward Earle

Since the time of holding our last Meeting, the conscript law passed at the last session of Congress, having gone into operation it now appears that some of our young Friends are drafted as soldiers for the army — And the committee appointed to extend counsel and sympathy to such Friends as might be brought into suffering, inform, that these are looking to our Meeting for Sufferings, with a hope, that measures will be taken for their relief — The committee further inform, that the Provost Marshalls of those States in our Yearly Meeting, where the drafting is going on, & where it has already taken place, have been called upon, & have been requested, one of them by letter addressed to him, to defer the time allowe for those Friends who have been drafted, to be mustered into service, until Friends should have time to meet together, and confer upon the subject; This request received the favourable consideration of those officers, & assurance has been given by some of them, that the time of calling out those Friends who are drawn as conscripts, will be deferred for a short period pursuant to the request of the Committee — A copy of the letter referred to has been read, and the clerk is directed to place it on file — The committee apprehend that all the Provost Marshalls will comply with their request —

The proceedings of the Committee are satisfactory to the meeting, and they are continued for further service —

The situation of our beloved Young Friends, who are thus brought into embarrassment, & who are liable to be subjected to suffering, has claimed our very serious and prayerful consideration, and much tender sympathy and feeling has been manifested on their behalf; and after a season of solid deliberation thereon, this meeting was unanimous in the conclusion, that it is advisable that a committee be appointed to proceed to Washington and seek relief for them, by laying the subject before the President and the proper authorities —

With this view we appoint our friends John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, & David Buffum a Committee for that purpose —

The following minute of advice was prepared and adopted at this time, and the clerk is directed to have 1500 copies thereof printed, and forwarded to our Subordinate Meetings viz —

At our Meeting specially called at this time on account of the trials to which our beloved younger Friends are now subjected, by the conscription law of the General Government, for supplying soldiers for the army, we have been introduced into deep and tender sympathy on account of this class, and very earnest have been our desires that they may be strengthened to maintain in simplicity, and humility, faithful allegiance to the Prince of Peace, and to be firm in the support of our testimony founded on the direct command and teaching of our blessed Lord, and his Apostles against all war —

We are very desirous that there should be no doubts in the minds of any Friends, as to the incompatibility of a maintainance of our Christian testimony against war, and a compliance ~~and a compliance~~ with the existing law by payment of money as a commutation for the performance of military service, & we believe it proper to call the attention of Friends to a portion of our ancient Discipline page 145 & 146 issued in 1760 —

Dear friends, now is our time of trial — now is the time for us to manifest to our fellow men, that while we would pay all respect to our Government, while we sympathize with those in authority, in their peculiarly painful position — while we are loyal to our country, and are disposed cheerfully to bear every burden which we may do, without conflicting with our conscientious scruples, yet whatever may be our sufferings, we feel our allegiance to the King of Kings to be paramount to all other considerations — This Meeting is adopting all the measures which we think calculated to procure relief — but whether successful or not, we entreat you to trust in the Arm Omnipotent - patiently and manfully endure suffering, if that be necessary to secure peace of conscience - & your trust will not prove in vain -

Practically we believe it may prove the safest course for Friends, when they receive notice that they are conscripted, to present themselves before the designated authorities at the appointed time, and in respectful terms, acknowledging their loyalty to the Government, make known their conscientious scruples against bearing arms; that they cannot avail themselves of the provisions of the existing law by paying commutation money or by supplying a substitute, or in any other mode of exemption, except the provisions for physical disability, & other exemptions as provided by said law, but that they shall for conscience sake submit quietly to the penalty that may be inflicted -

Endeavour beloved Friends to possess your souls in patience and manifest to all a meek & quiet spirit which is in the sight of God, of great price, & you will find Him a present help in this our time of need -

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of this Meeting, should circumstances require that we should assemble, sooner, than the time of our next regular meeting -

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Lynn 19th of 8mo 1863 -

Present at this time 26 members, viz - David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Moses Huntington, and Edward Earle -

Satisfactory reasons are at this time received for the absence at our last meeting of several of our members, & for the absence of two at the present time -

The committee appointed at our last Meeting, to proceed to Washington, to seek relief for our young Friends, who are drawn as Conscripts, presented the following report, viz -

To the Meeting for Sufferings -

The committee appointed at the Special Meeting held in Boston on the 30th Ultimo, to seek relief for such of our members as may be drafted for military service, Report - That we held a Meeting at Providence on the 9th instant, all of the committee being present, where after solid consideration it was agreed, that three of our number should proceed to Washington, & seek an opportunity with the President, & other officers of the Government, on the subject of our appointment — In pursuance of this conclusion the members of the committee designated proceeded that evening, and arrived at Washington on the evening of second day, the 11th Instant; And having made the necessary arrangements were favoured with a full opportunity by the President of the United States on the morning of the 12th — Of this interview it may be stated, that we trust we were enabled so to state our case, as to leave a favourable impression upon the President's mind, and we doubt not he is disposed to do every thing to relieve Friends from suffering, which he considers consistent with his duty in his office —

Afterwards we called on the Secretary of war — and with him also we had a free interchange of views; And we retired with the impression, that so far as could be done, consistently with the provisions of the Conscription act, he was quite disposed to second the views of the President, in relieving Friends from all unavoidable suffering and annoyance — We were favoured with kind attention from both of these officers — and as the result of our interviews, may state as our judgment that the place of safety for Friends likely to be brought into suffering on account of military demands, will be a quiet submission to what may be permitted to fall to their lot, putting their trust and confidence in Him, who is able to sustain them in any strait into which they may be permitted to be brought, & who is ever near unto those, who look unto Him for help —

Lynn 8mo. 19th 1863 — Signed. John D. Lang
Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce"

And the doings of the committee are satisfactory to the Meeting, and they are released from further attention thereto —

And in the near and tender sympathy which we continue to feel for our beloved young Friends who have been drafted as soldiers for the army, we appoint our Friends, John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, Henry M. Minott, Samuel Boyd Tobey, David Buffum, Alden Sampson; David H. Akin, Charles R. Tucker, William Farr, Nathan Breed, Edward Earle, Newell Hovie, John Page, Elisha Jones, William C. Taber, Richard Battey, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Samuel Boyce; Tobias Meader, & Stephen Reed, a committee to counsel & advise those who we apprehend will soon be brought into suffering — to encourage them in a patient submission to the trials that may await them, to endeavour as far as practicable to keep near them, and to use their influence when it can be done, to obtain an easement of the burdens imposed upon them –

The clerk informs that in accordance with the direction of this meeting he has caused 1500 copies of the Minute prepared at our last meeting to be printed, & that he has forwarded them to our subordinate meetings –

We have received at this time, from London Yearly Meeting of the present year, an Epistle of counsel & advice, which has been read to our comfort and edification; and the clerk is directed to place it on file –

At a special Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, held in Boston, 12th mo. 1st 1863 –

The clerk informs that in accordance with the following notice he has called this Meeting viz –

"To Samuel Boyce clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings –

Believing that circumstances exist which require the attention of our Meeting for Sufferings, wilt thou call a special Meeting of that body to be held in Boston the 1st of 12 mo 1863 – at 2º clk. P. M. –

11 mo. 25th 1863 – Signed John D. Lang
Samuel Boyd Tobey
Charles R. Tucker
Stephen A. Chase
David Buffum
William C. Taber
George Bowen
Newell Hoxie
Stephen Beede
Gilbert Congdon"

Present at this time eighteen members viz – David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, George Howland Jr, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, & Nathan Breed –

The following communication was at this time received from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings viz –

"To New England Meeting for Sufferings –

Dear Friends –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore the 21st of 11 mo. 1863 – The committee to have a care over the interests of our religious Society in relation to the military draft, and other subjects connected with the War, Report; that two of their number had a very full interview yesterday with the Secretary of War on behalf of two conscripted Friends who are under arrest – The Secretary set forth with much feeling & stress, the embarrassment which our position caused the Government, and our own Society, as well as himself personally, in his efforts to grant us exemption, unconditionally, for which he had no law – He spoke of a larger draft which would soon be enforced, & the necessity of some definite settled course for him to pursue – He wished Friends to have a general Conference of their Committees, to consider a proposition from him, "which he believed would satisfy them & relieve him and the Government", and that he would expect to hear from them in relation to it –

He proposes to create a special fund for the benefit of the Freedmen, and to exempt Friends from military service upon the payment of 300 Dolls, into this fund, said payment not to be as in other cases to the District Provost Marshal, but to his fiscal agent at Washington, to be credited on his books to the Freedmen, & that Friends can have the disbursement of it through their own agents and laborers –

He expressed deep interest in the organized & individual efforts of Friends to elevate the moral & physical condition of the manumitted slaves, & "was willing to accept this medium as relief for our members from the draft – the only legal mode in his power" –

After a time of serious deliberation, without entering upon the proposition itself, this meeting concluded to lay the foregoing report before the several Meetings for Sufferings on this Continent, inviting them to appoint Committees to meet in Conference in this city, at 9 o clk. A. M. 2d day 12 mo 7. 1863 to consider the whole subject, believing that the time has come for our widely spread Society to have some definite and settled understanding with the Government in relation to the Drafts that now are, and soon will be ordered –

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid
Francis T. King
Clerk for the day –"

And after a time of solid consideration thereon, during which, the motives of kindness manifested by the Secretary of War, in proposing a way for Friends to be relieved from the embarrassment into which they have been brought by the operation of the conscript law, were fully appreciated, this meeting does not see that way open, consistently with our principles, for accepting the proposition as it is now presented—

But, apprehending that good may result from a Conference of Friends to be held in Baltimore, pursuant to the conclusion of the Meeting for Sufferings of that Yearly Meeting, we appoint our Friends Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, Gilbert Congdon, & William H. Robinson a committee to attend said Conference, & represent this meeting in its deliberations, and to act on its behalf, in such way as may be in accordance with the pointings of Truth —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of this meeting, should it be necessary so to meet before the time of holding our next regular Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings assembled at the call of the Clerk, and held in Boston 1 mo. 1. 1864 —

Present at this time 13 members. viz — John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Nathan Breed, Edward Earle, & David K Akin —

Satisfactory reasons are received for the absence at this time of several of the members of this meeting —

The following communication from Indiana Meeting for Sufferings was at this time received. viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting
Dear Friends —

At the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, held 12 mo. 22d 1863 —

The clerk is directed to send a copy of our Memorial to Congress in relation to the rights of conscience, to each of the Meetings for Sufferings on this continent with which we correspond —

Taken from the Minutes —

Levi Jessup. Clerk"

A copy of the Memorial refered to has been recd & read, and the clerk is directed to place it on file —

The committee appointed at our last Meeting, to meet in conference, with committees of other Meetings for Sufferings in Baltimore report, that four of their number met there with other Friends at the time proposed, and they endeavoured to give such attention to the object of their appointment, as way opened for, and were favened with entire harmony and unanimity in their conclusions —

And they now present a copy of the doings of the Conference as their Report viz —

"At a Conference of Friends, held in Baltimore, the 7th of 12 mo. 1863, in pursuance of the following call from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, viz —

At a Meeting for Sufferings, held in Baltimore the 21st. of 11 mo 1863 —
The Committee to have a care over the interests of our religious Society, in relation to the military draft, & other subjects connected with the war,

Report, that two of their number had a very full interview, yesterday, with the Secretary of war, on behalf of two conscripted Friends who are under arrest; The Secretary set forth with much feeling and stress the embarrassment which our position caused the Government & our own Society, as well as himself personally, in his efforts to grant us exemption, unconditionally, for which he had no law — He spoke of a larger draft, which will soon be enforced and the necessity of some definite course for him to pursue —

He wishes Friends to have a general conference of their Committees, to consider a proposition from him, which he believes "will satisfy them, and relieve him and the Government," and that he expects to hear from them in relation to it." —

He proposes to create a special fund for the benefit of the Freedmen, and to exempt Friends from military service, upon the payment of 300 Dolls. into this fund, said payment not to be as in other cases to the District Provost Marshal, but to his fiscal Agent at Washington, to be credited on his books to the Freedmen; and that Friends can have the disbursement of it, through their own agents & laborers — He expressed deep interest in the organized and individual efforts of Friends, to elevate the moral & physical condition of the manumitted Slaves, and "was willing to accept this medium as relief for our members from the draft — the only legal mode in his power" —

Our Committee informed him that they would convey the result of their interview to Friends generally —

After a time of serious deliberation, without entering upon the proposition itself, this Meeting concluded to lay the foregoing Report, before the several Meetings for Sufferings on this Continent, inviting them to appoint Committees to meet in Conference in this City, at 9o Ck, A. M. 2nd day, 12 mo. 7th 1863 — to consider the whole subject, believing that the time has come, for our widely spread Society, to have some definite and settled understanding, with the Government, in relation to the drafts that now are & soon will be ordered; Signed by direction, & on behalf of the meeting aforesaid —

Francis T. King — clerk for the day —

After a time of deep religious exercise and feeling, in which the hearts of all were humbled under a sense of the weight and responsibility of the occasion, and our need of that Heavenly wisdom, which can alone direct and keep us, the Conference was organized, by the appointment of Francis T. King as Clerk —

Minutes were, received and read from the Meetings for Sufferings of New-England, Newyork, Baltimore, Ohio, Indiana, and Western Yearly Meetings, appointing the following Committees to meet in Conference, in the City of Baltimore, to consider the proposition and general concern embraced in the minute from Baltimore, viz —

New-England — Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, Gilbert Congdon, and William A. Robinson —

Newyork — James Congdon, Benj. Tatham, John J. Thomas, William Wood, and Robert Lindley Murray —

Baltimore — Francis T. King, James C. Thomas, James Carey, & Richard H. Janney —

Ohio, John D. Elliott, Ezra Cattell, Jonathan Binns, & John Butler —

Indiana, Charles F. Coffin; Daniel Hill, Francis W. Thomas, and Levi Jessup —

Western — Robert W. Hodson, James Hersey, William E. Morris, and Jeremiah A. Grinnell; who were present, except two from New-England —

A letter was received from the clerk of Iowa Meeting for Sufferings, stating, that that Meeting could not be convened, in time to send delegates to this conference —

After a free & full interchange of views, we are united in adopting the following minute as expressive of our judgment —

The conference assembles under a deep sense of its responsibity to the Head of the church, and to the members of our religious society, especially to our young men, who are particularly interested in the cause that has brought us together — and as faithfull Representatives of those who appointed us, we believe it right for us, first to record our united sense & judgment, that Friends continue to be solemnly bound unswervingly to maintain our ancient faith and belief, that war is forbidden, in the gospel, and that as followers of the Prince of Peace, we cannot contribute to its support, or in any way participate in its spirit —

That to render other service as an equivalent for, or in lieu of requisitions for military purposes is a compromise of a vital principal which we feel conscientiously bound to support, under all circumstances, ~~and~~ notwithstanding any trials to which we may be subjected —

But while thus, recording our sense of obligation to maintain, in all its fulness and purity, this testimony to our belief of the imperative duty of abstaining from all wars, and of regarding sacredly the rights of conscience, we have been introduced afresh into sympathy, with those now in authority in the General Government in the peculiar difficulties and trials in which they are involved — We gratefully appreciate the kindness evidenced at all times, by the President and Secretary of war, when we have applied to them for relief from suffering for conscience sake, and honour them for their clearly manifested regard for religious liberty —

We have ever believed, and do, without any reservation, believe in the necessity of civil Government, that it is a Divine Ordinance, and that it is our duty to sustain it by all the influence we may be able to exert, both by word and deed, subject to the paramount law of Christ; and in this day of fearful strife, when so many of our fellow citizens are brought into suffering, we have no desire to shrink from the discharge of all our duty, nor from contributing to the relief of the distressed, by every means in our power — To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick and distressed, now so numerous in our country, are among the prominent commands of Christ — In especial manner Friends have long believed it their duty to labor for the relief and freedom of the bondmen, and now when so many are becoming free from bondage, in the progress of passing events, and need abundant ministration, both to their physical and mental necessities, we rejoice to find that Friends generally are engaged in their behalf, and we desire to encourage our fellow members in every part of our land to continued and increased efforts in this way, thus relieving the Government of a portion of the heavy burden now resting upon it — In this way and by many other means, Friends can discharge the duties of good citizenship without infringing upon our principles of peace, and we desire to impress upon them the duty of embracing every right opening for the exercise of Christian benevolence toward their suffering fellow creatures —

Then adjourned to 4 o clk. this afternoon —

Friends met according to adjournment —

Upon further consideration of the general subject which brought us together, it was the judgment of the Conference, that a small committee should be appointed to proceed to Washington, without delay to have an interview with the Secretary of war, in consequence of the communication embraced in the minute of Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings — Samuel Boyd Tobey, William Wood, James Carey, Jonatha Binns, Levi Jessup, and Jeremiah A. Grinnell were appointed to nam a Committee to the Conference for that purpose, and after retiring for consultation, they proposed Francis T. King, Charles F. Coffin, & Samuel Boyd Tobey, which was united with by the Meeting —

Then adjourned to 7½ o'clk, to-morrow evening —

Third of the week, & Eighth of the Month — The Conference met at 7½ P.M. pursuant to adjournment —

The following Report was received from the Committee, appointed yesterday, to obtain an interview with the Secretary of War, and their action was approved of by this conference —

To the Conference assembled —

"The committee appointed yesterday to visit Washington City, to have an interview with Secretary Stanton, Report; that the interview was readily obtained, and the committee stated to him, at length, the views of Friends in regard to the draft, and that we could not directly or indirectly, pay money in lieu of military service, but that we were both willing and desirous, to do all we could, conscientiously, to aid the Government, that we had already done much for the Freedmen, and were proposing to extend our field of labor in their behalf, and that we had, also, assisted in caring for the sick & wounded, that we did these things as a matter of christian duty, and should do them, whether relieved from military service or not —

We, also expressed to Secretary Stanton, the thanks of Friends, for the great kindness he had shown them in repeated instances, & our high appreciation of the feeling of favour towards Friends, which he had uniformly shown, and that we felt desirous, if possible, that some understanding should be had by which he would be relieved from being so often called on by Friends for relief —

Secretary Stanton listened with earnest attention to the remarks, and at the close inquired whether we had any proposition to make — that he was fully aware of the liberality of Friends, and knew that they had done much for the Freedmen, and that he fully appreciated it; but that he could not, on this ground release them from a compliance with the laws of the land, — that he stood only as an officer to execute the laws, and had nothing to do with making them — that if their liberality released them from the Draft, the same cause would release nearly every one, & no soldiers could be found; that all sects and denominations and people of every class had shown an extended liberality, and that if Friends had done more than others, it was because they were better able to do it —

He had great respect for their conscientious scruples, & should be very sorry to oppress them, & with that view had made a proposition, the only one he could make — Being asked to restate this, he said it was that every Friend when drafted, should appear before the provost Marshal, and state that he is a member of the Society of Friends, & has conscientious objections to perform military service —

He would instruct the Provost Marshals not to proceed against such until after they had notified him — That such Friends should immediately inform Secretary Stanton, by letter, marked, "On business connected with the draft", and that upon the payment to the Provost Marshal General, at Washington, of $300. each, they shall be released — The money should not go into the general fund, but, he would pledge himself, should be used, to aid the destitute and suffering Contrabands; that in this war there were two duties to be performed by the Government, one to destroy the rebellion, & the other to feed the hungry & clothe the naked Freedmen — That the last being a work of mercy and not of destruction, might be done by Friends — When asked in reference to the disposition of the funds, thus raised, he said he would have to review his former promise, it probably would be handed over to the Society to be disbursed by it, but of this he would not say certainly, until he had further examined the law — it might require its disbursement by Government officers, but if by them it should be faithfully and judiciously used —

When told that such payment would be considered as infringing on the rights of conscience, he said he could understand no such abstraction as that — that it was a work of mercy and in accordance with the commands of Christ; and that if our members did not choose to accept so liberal an offer, he could do no more for them, and the law would have to take its effect — He said that if any meeting or body of Friends chose to place funds in his hands, in advance, to a greater amount than would be requisite to cover all their members who would be likely to be drafted, he would receive their funds and release all such as should be drafted, and apply the funds as previously proposed — He voluntarily observed that he would hold this plan open, and that the Society in general, or any Meeting or individual Friend might avail themselves of it — His views were ably and cogently stated, & while he showed great courtesy and kindness, he also manifested much firmness, & decision — Having stated fully the difficulties in which Friends would be involved, by complying with the propositions of the Secretary, we thought best to leave the matter for his consideration —

Baltimore 12 mo. 8th 1863 —

Samuel Boyd Tobey
Francis T. King
Charles F. Coffin"

In reviewing the exercises of the Conference, we are brought in humility to feel, that we have not met in vain, nor has the Lord veiled his face from us, and we are now, as the time of our separation is at hand, brought into renewed, & very tender sympathy with our dear young men, who may be brought into trials which they have not yet known —

We entreat all these wherever located, to remember that obedience to the law of God, is our first and paramount duty, and that he is Omnipotent and Omnipresent, and that his ear is open to the cry of all his dependent children, and that leaning upon His almighty arm, in faith, we have nothing to fear — We earnestly exhort you, prayerfully, to exercise an unfailing trust, and believe you will find a way opened for your preservation and deliverance — Maintain a meek & quiet spirit — avoid unprofitable discussion on the exciting topics of the day — be not hasty in determining in advance what course you will pursue, as the contingency may not arise that will require a decision — wait in patience, and in faith, and in filial love and dependence, and your Heavenly Father will show unto you what you shall do —

Our elder bretheren we exhort to keep very near to our younger friends; Counsel them in the wisdom of Truth — give them full evidence that you are ready to participate with them in all their burdens, that you really love them, and are willing to suffer with them, if suffering for Christ's sake should be their lot; and while we are thus engaged in addressing our fellow members, who are concerned to walk in the light of the Lord and to obey the teachings of the Gospel and the commandments of Christ, we take comfort in the assured belief, that as a way has thus far been opened for us, the blessed Master will continue to strengthen us and enable us to keep his laws —

Believing that the interests of our Society would be served by the appointment of a committee to watch over the legislation of Congress, and the operation of the Draft, and to act in such way for the relief of Friends as Truth may direct, with full power, if they deem it advisable, to call together again this Conference, we appoint to that service — Francis T. King, James C. Thomas, James Carey, and Richard M. Janney, Post-Offices Baltimore — Benjamin Tatham, Newyork — Samuel Boyce, Lynn Massachusetts — John Butler, Salem, Ohio — Charles F. Coffin, Richmond, Indiana — And Robert Wm Hodson, Plainfield, Indiana —

Our clerk is directed to furnish each Meeting for Sufferings, represented in this conference, with a copy of its Minutes, and one to Iowa; he is also directed to invite that Meeting to any future

Meeting, of this body, should one be called by the Special Committee —

The precious covering which has from time to time been extended over us, during the sittings of this conference, has been graciously renewed, as we are about to separate, and under this feeling, we would commend one another, and the Cause which has brought us together, to our merciful, & loving Father — Adjourned to meet again, at the call of the Special Committee, if the Lord will —

Francis T. King, Clerk to the Conference"

The proceedings of the Conference are very satisfactory to this Meeting — And the Committee are continued for further service —

After a time of solid consideration, this Meeting believes it to be its religious duty, to memorialize Congress in regard to the present Conscript law; to petition that body, that said law may be amended in such manner, as that the rights of conscience may be preserved inviolate;

And under this concern which pervades the minds of Friends, a Memorial has been prepared, which being read, is approved; and the clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of this Meeting —

The Memorial is as follows — viz —

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled —

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, for New-England, respectfully showeth —

That the Society of Friends have ever believed that all war is forbidden by christ, and is incompatible with the teachings of the gospel — and from their rise, now more than two hundred years, they have acted in strict accordance with this belief, and have endured, especially in foreign lands, much suffering, both in person and estate, on this account —

Your Memorialists gratefully acknowledge that in this country, with little exception, their conscientious convictions with regard to war have been respected by our Statesman and Legislators, so that the free enjoyment of their religious views, has not been prohibited or curtailed

They have at all times acknowledged the duty of a faithful allegiance to the Government, under which by Divine Providence they are placed — They ask for no relief from their full share of its burdens, but are always ready to sustain it, in every way that does not prevent the exercise of the rights of Conscience, for which alone they now plead — They would further respectfully represent that the act entitled "An act for enrolling and calling out the national forces, & for other purposes" passed at the last Session of Congress, does require of them the performance of Military Service, which they cannot render, or pay in lieu thereof an equivalent or commutation in money, without the Sacrifice of the religious principles which they feel conscientiously bound sacredly to maintain —

They therefore earnestly petition Congress, in its wisdom, so to amend the law referred to, that they may still enjoy, that religious liberty which has been heretofore accorded to them —

May Divine Wisdom direct you in all your deliberations, and may the God of mercy deliver our beloved Country from all the devices of those now engaged in this wicked rebellion" —

And we appoint our Friend John D. Lang to take charge of said Memorial, and proceed to Washington, & have it presented to both Houses of Congress — And he is also requested to unite with the Subcommittee appointed by the Conference, and labour as way opens for it in Washington, for the promotion of the objects set forth in the Memorial, in such way as may be in accordance with the pointings of Truth —

The suffering condition of that class of our Countrymen who have been liberated from bondage, and who it is believed, are, many of them very destitute of the necessaries of life, has at this time claimed our serious consideration, and much sympathy has been manifested on their behalf, & earnest desires have been expressed that they may receive the needful aid — We are glad to be informed, that much has been done, & that much is still doing for this suffering class, and we feel concerned at this time to encourage Friends to continue to contribute liberally as in their freedom they may think proper, for the relief of these sufferers, & the members of this Meeting are requested to encourage Friends in their respective meetings to continue their labors for this purpose —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of this Meeting, should circumstances render another Meeting necessary, before our regular Meeting next month —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 3d of 2 mo. 1864 — Present 20 members — viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, David H. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R.

Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, & David Kelly —

The following communication was at this time received, from the Committee having charge of our Boarding School, viz —

"At a Meeting of the School Committee held at the School House, 2 mo. 2 — 1864 —

To the Meeting for Sufferings —

Dear friends —

The great advance in the cost of all supplies required for the Boarding School, has claimed our renewed attention at this time; and after a careful consideration of the subject, it was concluded to apply to our Meeting for Sufferings, for its approval of the following changes in the rates of admission to this Institution, to take effect at the commencement of the next term —

For Members of this Yearly Meeting 55 Dolls per term —

For Members of other Yearly Meetings, and where one or both parents are members of our religious Society, or Scholars are sent at the charge and expense of such, 80 Dolls per term —

And for any others who may be admitted, 125 Dolls per term — The same additional charge for Latin and Greek, French, German, or drawing as heretofore —

By direction of the School Committee —

Gilbert Congdon — Clerk"

And after a time of consideration thereon, the propositions therein contained, were fully united with by this Meeting, and adopted; and the clerk is directed to forward the information to our Monthly Meetings —

The selling of Friends Meeting House & Lot in Boston, pursuant to the recommendations of our Yearly Meeting by its minute made in the year 1857, at this time claiming our consideration and this Meeting apprehending, that the present time may be a favorable opportunity for disposing of said property, the committee appointed by this meeting in 1857, to ascertain upon what terms said property can be sold, are requested to attend to their appointment, and to effect a sale thereof, pursuant to the conclusion of the Yearly Meeting, if in the judgment of the committee a suitable price can be obtained —

We appoint our friends George Bowen, Benj. Peck, William A. Robinson, David Buffum, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, and John D. Lang, to take such care as may be necessary in regard to advising & aiding Friends in their obtaining accommodations for board, while in the attendance of our Yearly Meeting—

Our friend John D. Lang informed this Meeting that in accordance with his appointment, he and Samuel Boyce one of the committee appointed by the Conference at Baltimore, proceeded to Washington, with the Memorial prepared by this Meeting, and caused it to be presented to both Houses of Congress; & that they joined with the committee of the Conference in laboring for the promotion of the objects set forth in the Memorial, and they now present the following Report of their doings — Viz —

"Pursuant to appointment we proceeded to Washington, and caused the Memorial prepared at our last Meeting to be presented to both Houses of Congress, & distributed among the members of that body; and we have reason to believe that its contents received their favorable consideration —

In consequence of not having sufficient notice we did not arrive in Washington in time, to unite with the committee in their interview, with the military committee of the Senate, but we joined them in their Conference with the committee of the House, & we spent several days in conferring with the influential members of Congress, endeavouring to spread before them the reasons for Friends non-compliance with military requisitions, & to cause them to understand, why they cannot pay money in commutation therefor.

The embarrassment into which some Friends had been brought who had been conscripted, & the cruelties, & sufferings to which they had been subjected, under the operation of the conscript law, were spread before them — With the account thus given of the sufferings into which Friends had been brought, some of them were much affected, & their sympathy with these sufferers for conscience sake, was earnestly manifested, & we were strongly assured of their disapprobation of such proceedings —

In all these interviews we were treated with much kindness, and respect, and a disposition was evinced to make provision in some way for the relief of Friends, as far as it was deemed practicable —

In order that this might be effected, some proposed a compromise whereby Friends might be exempted from military requisitions, by paying money in commutation, with the understanding that it should be used either for sanitary purposes, or else for the relief of the freed-men.

It was stated by these, that they had been informed, that an arrangement of this kind, would meet the wants of Friends and free them from much of their embarrassment — We stated to them explicitly that with this proposal, we could not comply, that it was unconditional exemption for which Friends had petitioned, & that paying for the privilege of exercising the rights of Conscience, would be an act against which they felt bound to bear their testimony, notwithstanding the money thus paid might be appropriated to purposes which they could otherwise approve —

A bill for the amendment of the conscript law, is now claiming the attention of Congress, & although the petition of our memorial may not be granted at this time, in its full extent, yet we apprehend that good will result from the exertions which have been made for a modification of said law —

Providence 2 mo. 3. 1864 — Signed — John D Lang
Samuel Boyce"

All of which is satisfactory to the meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of this Meeting, should circumstances require another Meeting to be held, previous to the time of holding our next regular Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 11th of 6mo 1864

Present at this time time 29 members viz — David Buffum, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A Chase, William Tarr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Rowe, Sewell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, & Edward Earle —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends David Hunt, from Iowa Yearly Meeting, Cornelius Douglas, & Enos G. Ray from Indiana Yearly Meeting. Aaron L. Benedict, and William Jenkins from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and Jonathan Devoll from New York Yearly Meeting

∴ The committee appointed in the 1 mo. last to visit Washington & cause the Memorial prepared by this meeting to be presented to Congress, at this time further Report —

That the modification in the conscript law under consideration when they reported last, has been made, & that the following section is in the law as it now stands. viz —

"Section 19 — And be it further enacted, that members of religious denominations, who shall by oath or affirmation declare that they are conscientiously opposed to the bearing of arms, and who are prohibited from doing so by the rules and articles of faith & practice of said religious denomination, shall when drafted into the military service, be considered non-combatants, and shall be assigned by the Secretary of War to duty in the hospitals, or to the care of freed-men, or shall pay the sum of Three Hundred Dollars to such person as the Secretary of War shall designate to receive it, to be applied to the benefit of the sick & wounded soldiers; and such drafted persons shall then be exempted from draft during the time for which they shall have been drafted — Provided, that no person shall be entitled to the benefit, of the provisions of this Section, unless his declaration of conscientious scruples against bearing arms shall be supported by satisfactory evidence, that his deportment has been uniformly consistent with such declaration —"

The committee appointed in the 8 mo. last to counsel & advise our young Friends who are drafted as conscripts for the army, at this time presented the following Report — viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Committee appointed in the 8 mo. last to render such advise and assistance to members of our Yearly Meeting, who were drafted for the army, as might be necessary, presented the following

Report —

That they have from time to time in pursuance of their appointment rendered such advice and assistance in the cases alluded to, as they were enabled to do, and which appeared requisite —

In the State of Rhode-Island, William W. Perry of South Kingstown was drafted and appearing before the Provost Marshall was sent to Fort Columbus on Governors Island in New York Harbour, where he was detained a number of weeks — and then released on parole to return when called for — He was treated kindly and was not required to do any actual military duty while at the fort — He was not well while there and after his return had a severe sickness attributable, probably at least in part, to the circumstances in which he had been placed — From this sickness he has recovered —

Charles W. Cook of Unity Maine, who was in the employment of the Superintendent of Friends School at ~~Friends School~~ at Providence, was also drafted and sent to the same fort — He was detained a much shorter time than William S. Perry, and was released on a parole similar to the one mentioned in that case —

in the State of Massachusetts, Edward W. Holway, was drafted and sent to the army— where, being faithful to his conscientious convictions of the unlawfulness of war he was subjected to much mental, & some physical suffering, and was about to be tried by a court martial for declining to bear arms, in obedience to the commands of the officers of the regiment to which he was attached—

While he was in this State, the Colonel of the Regiment, visited Boston, and was there waited upon by a member of the Committee, who laid before him, as well as he was able, the reasons why Edward W. Holway declined to bear arms— That it was not from any disrespect to the Government, but because he believed war unlawful, and for him to take part in it, would be sin, and would peril his well being in the world to come—

The colonel expressed his surprise that such sentiments were held by any one, & thought that cowardice was the ruling motive in Edward W. Holways refusal— But before the close of the interview he appeared to fully appreciate the conscientious motives which ruled in the case, and said, war is indeed an awful thing, and a battle enough to make a man shudder, and that he could wish that all men were Quakers; promising to do all he could for Edward W. Holway consistent with his duty to his Country, & that he would write to the officer in command of the Regiment immediately on his behalf— While this was going on, another member of the Committee went to Washington, and on his representation of the Case to the Secretary of war, an order was immediately issued for his transfer to Washington, from whence he was paroled, and came home—

Henry L. Swift was drafted, and sent to Long-Island in Boston harbor, where he was kept for some time & while there was employed in the hospital, nursing the sick, to which he did not object— Two of the Committee visited him there, and procured a furlough for his release for a short time, while his case could be represented at Washington, which resulted in his being released on parole—

In the States of Massachusetts, & Rhode-Island, some others were drafted, who were discharged from legal causes—

In the State of Newhampshire, three of our members were drafted, & ordered to appear before the provost Marshalls, to be mustered into the army— A member of the committee accompanied one of these before the officer, & the result of the visit, was a discharge on parole in two of the three cases —

In the third case the Friend was discharged by a legal excuse — The provost marshall having been visited, by a member of the committee on his behalf —

In the State of Maine about twenty five of our members, were drafted, and ordered to appear before the provost Marshalls for examination — They all appeared according to the order, and members of the committee appeared also and represented the conscientious principles of Friends in relation to military service — A part of these were discharged by legal excuses, and all the others were paroled, without being mustered into camp —

In every case where the committee have had interviews with the officers of the Government, both civil & military, they have been uniformly treated with kindness, and respect, & their representations listened to patiently & respectfully —

It may be interesting to add, that in the discussion upon a new militia bill before the Legislature of Massachusetts, the faithfulness of Friends to their testimony to the peaceable nature of the Christian religion, and the incompatibility of war with its precepts, was brought before these Legislators, and it is believed had great weight with them in continuing the exemption from military requisitions of all consistent Friends, in the new law enacted at the last Session —

Provision is now made for the exemption of Friends, from the operation of the State militia laws in the States of Rhode-Island, Massachusetts, New-Hampshire & Maine —

We believe the authorities of our Government at Washington, have appreciated the motives of Friends, in their steady adherence to the testimony of the Society against all wars & fightings, and that this appreciation has facilitated if not led to the kindly bearing of all the officers of the Government towards Friends in all their interviews with them and the discharge of such of our members who, having been drafted, have borne their testimony faithfully —

It is cause of thankfulness to the Author & dispenser of every blessing that we have been thus favored, & calls as the committee believe, for renewed faithfulness on the part of Friends to walk worthy of the vocation to which they are called —

Newport R. I.
6 mo. 11th 1864

John D. Lang
Stephen A. Chase
Samuel Boyce
For the Committee"

And the doings of the committee are satisfactory to the Meeting —

This Meeting having recommended to our Monthly Meetings that the suffering condition of the freedmen should claim their attention, and that contributions for their relief, should be made, as in the freedom of Friends they might think proper, we are now informed that there has been collected and forwarded from Friends of our Yearly Meeting, in money, over . $ 5000,00 cts

There has also been forwarded in new & second hand clothing, an amount, which was prized at about — — } 3000,00

In addition to the above about 60 packages a part of which were barrels, & the others large Boxes of goods & clothing, & over 1000 garments in addition thereto, were forwarded which, although they were not prized, are supposed to be worth about 4400,00

Total — $12400,00

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the Meeting —

Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 16th of 6mo. 1864 —

By the clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year — viz — David Buffum, Perry Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John S. Gray, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Rat Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon Richard Battey, Henry W. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, and Joseph Cartland of North Providence —

Present at this time 31 members —

We appoint Samuel Boyce, Clerk to this meeting for the coming year —

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this meeting the coming year, be as follows, viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8 mo. at 4o clk in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day, in the 2d mo. at 3o clk, in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day previous to the commencement of our Yearly Meeting at 6o clk in the afternoon —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 17th of 8 mo. 1864 —
Present at this time 23 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Micajah C. Pratt, William A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, and Joseph Cartland —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friend, Daniel Peckham from New York Yearly Meeting —

Satisfactory reasons are assigned for the absence at this time of several of the members of this meeting —

The great increase in the expense incurred in sustaining our Boarding School, has at this time claimed our very serious attention, & consideration; and it being evident from statements now received, that the expenses of the Institution cannot now be met, without raising the price of board and tuition, this meeting believes it to be its duty, in fulfilling the trust confided to it, by the Yearly Meeting, to increase the price for the admission of scholars; and it is therefore concluded, that after the expiration of the present term, the price charged for Board & Tuition, shall be as follows, viz —

For members of this Yearly Meeting One Hundred Dollars per Term —

For members of other Yearly Meetings, and where one or both parents are members of our religious society, or scholars are sent at the charge of such, One Hundred and Thirty Dollars per Term —

And for any others who may be admitted, One Hundred and Fifty Dollars per Term — The same additional charges to be made for the study of Latin, Greek, French, German, or drawing as heretofore —

And the clerk is directed to furnish each of our Monthly Meetings with copies of the foregoing minute —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2 mo. 1. 1865 –

Present at this time 19 members viz – David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, William A. Robinson, Richard Battey, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, David Kelly Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland –

A satisfactory reason is offered for the absence at this time of one of the members of this meeting –

We appoint our friends David Buffum, George Bowen, Charles R. Tucker, John D. Lang, Micajah C. Pratt, Nathan Breed, and Tobias Meader, to take such care as may be necessary in regard to advising and aiding Friends in their obtaining accommodations for board, while in attendance of our next Yearly Meeting –

The selling of Friends Meeting House & lot in Boston, has again claimed our consideration; and the committee under appointment to have charge thereof, are requested to proceed and dispose of said property either at public or private sale –

The present situation of Friend's Meeting House in Wolfboro' claiming our consideration, we appoint our Friends Stephen A. Chase, Tobias Meader, and John D. Lang, to give the necessary attention to the case, and report at our next meeting, what measures it is advisable to adopt in relation thereto –

It appearing that there are now cases where Friends have been recently drafted for the army, & that they are liable to brought into suffering, the committee appointed in the 8 mo. 1863 to counsel & advise such as these are continued; and they are requested to encourage those who are, or may be drafted as conscripts, to a patient submission to the trials, which may await them, and to use their influence in obtaining relief for them whenever it is practicable –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 10th of 6mo. 1865 –

Present at this time 28 members viz – David Buffum & others – We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, William Green, from Ireland, Edward W. Dorland, William Cromwell, William R. Taber, Levi Knowles, & Henry Jewell from Newyork Yearly Meeting – Daniel Barker & Isham Cox from North-Carolina Yearly Meeting, Isaac Jay, William Haughton, & Robert W. Douglas from Indiana Yearly Meeting, & Joseph D. Hoag from Iowa Yearly Meeting –

Satisfactory reasons are offered for the absence at this time of one of the members of this meeting —

The committee to effect a sale of Boston Meeting House & lot presented the following Report — viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee to whom was entrusted the selling of Boston Meeting House & lot — Report —

That they have attended to their appointment; and that they sold the house & lot, on the 30th day of the 5 mo — at public auction, for the sum of 10.275 Dollars — One Thousand Dollars of the money was paid down at the time of sale, and the remainder is to be be paid on the delivery of the deed, which is to be ready in twenty five days from the time of sale —

Newport 6 mo. 10th 1865 —
Stephen A Chase
Nathan Breed
Samuel Boyce
on behalf of the committee"

Which is satisfactory to this Meeting — and the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is requested & authorized to sign a deed of conveyance, of the property — and the committee are continued, and are desired to complete the negotiation, & report to this meeting when the service is accomplished —

The committee to consider what measures are advisable for this meeting to take, in relation to Friends Meeting House in Wolfboro, Report — That they are of opinion that the house should be sold; and they recommend that the proceeds thereof be appropriated towards aiding Friends of Sandwich Monthly Meeting New Hampshire, in building a new meeting house for Friends of that place; their former Meeting house having been destroyed by fire — Which meeting our approbation, it is concluded to lay the subject before our Yearly Meeting —

The following communication was received from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings — viz —

"To New-England Meeting for Sufferings —

Dear Friends —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore 4 mo. 15 — 1865 —

The situation of our Friends of Contentnea Quarterly Meeting, near Goldsboro North-Carolina, has been brought before us, by a letter from an esteemed member of it, as well as by Friends who have arrived in Baltimore, direct from there, entirely destitute —

They represent their condition sad in the extreme, as the army in its line of march passed over them, consuming their grain & cattle and destroying their means of living — Emigrants from the other Quarterly Meetings have also been arriving in our city for three months past, and their condition shows in many cases, great destitution and suffering — This meeting has been introduced into much sympathy & feeling on their behalf in the remembrance of their consistent allegiance to the Government, their faithfulness to our christian testimonies against War & Slavery, and their steady maintainance of meetings and schools, & their unfaltering love of the brethren every where, under the severe trials and dangers to which they have been subjected for the past four years —

We appoint our friend Richard M. Janney to make a general visit to North-Carolina, if possible on our behalf, to examine into the condition of Friends there and superintend the distribution of provision which "Friends Association of Baltimore to advise & assist Friends of the Southern States" has already directed to be forwarded to Goldsboro —

We believe that these feelings of brotherly sympathy and interest are largely shared by the members of the other Yearly Meetings, and as prompt & liberal effort will be necessary to relieve our Friends, who have lost even their horses & farming implements, we direct our clerk to furnish each of the meetings for sufferings with a copy of this minute —

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting
Francis T. King
Clerk for the day"

And as the case appeared to be very urgent when this minute came to hand, it was thought best by several members of this meeting to solicit subscriptions for funds to be forwarded & applied to the immediate relief of our dear Friends of North-Carolina Yearly Meeting, without waiting to call our meeting for Sufferings together — In accordance with this conclusion about 2000 Dollars was raised & sent for their benefit — and we would recommend to our Yearly Meeting that Friends be encouraged to make further subscriptions for their relief —

The following communication was at this time received from the Subcommittee appointed at the Conference of Friends held in Baltimore in the 12 mo — 1863 — Viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The Subcommittee appointed at a Meeting of the Conference of Friends held in Baltimore in the 12 mo. 1863. to act on behalf of said committee as occasion might require, and the truth dictate, apprehending that usefulness would result from seeing President Johnson, and expressing on behalf of Friends their grief on account of the assassination of President Lincoln, and their feelings of sympathy with our chief Magistrate in the new and responsible station which he is now filling, visited Washington in the early part of the 5 mo. & called upon the President, and delivered him the following

Address ~ viz "

To Andrew Johnson, President of the United States —

We appear before thee as Representatives of the religious Society of Friends —

We desire first to express our heart-felt grief in common with all true men, under the terrible calamity in which our nation has been involved, by the assassination of its honored Chief Magistrate, the late Abraham Lincoln, a ruler whom we sincerely and warmly loved, and to whom we accorded our profound respect, our unbounded gratitude —

We sympathize with thee President Johnson in thy being unexpectedly called to the discharge of duties, always of the gravest importance, but especially difficult and embarrassing in the peculiar situation of our country — We rejoice that the people of our land, and the authorities of the States have given unmistakeable evidence that thou hast their full confidence, and that they will give thee their hearty support as the head of the nation —

Permit us to say that the Society of Friends has ever been loyal to Government, always engaged by every means which they can conscientiously use to uphold it, and duly to respect and honour, those placed in authority —

We tender thee the assurance of our sincere regard, we pray for thee, that thou mayest receive Divine Grace, to cheer and comfort thee, Divine Guidance to lead and direct thee, and Divine protection to sustain and keep thee —

We crave that thy administration of the Government, may be to the honor of God, and the welfare of the people, and that thou mayest be instrumental in restoring permanent peace —

May the blessing of Heaven descend upon our beloved country, & may the Kingdom of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ be extended therein & throughout the world —

Washington 5 mo 4 — 1865 —

The President received us kindly, and expressed his gratitude for this assurance of the confidence of Friends, saying that his administration was rendered easier by such manifestations, and would perhaps be impossible without them — (No man more deeply deplored the sad event which had placed him in the station he now held, than he did himself — The whole constitution of his mind he said was for peace rather than war, and he desired to promote amongst his fellow citizens, the cause of peace on earth and good will to men, and also to promote it with foreign nations – This would ever be his aim during his administration –

The committee then called upon Secretary Stanton and assured him of the gratitude felt towards him by Friends, for his kind consideration of their conscientious scruples; and the clemency granted them during the war; and these feelings were also entertained towards our Government for its recognition of the rights of conscience, & for the respect it had manifested for religious scruples –

The Secretary with much feeling replied, saying, that he deeply appreciated the sentiments which had been expressed, and that in the administration of his department he had ever sought to regard the religious scruples of Friends, and of other religious bodies –

In the merciful preservation of his own life, when others better & more able than himself to advance the interests of the nation, had been smitten down, he recognised the hand of Divine Providence, the wisdom of whose ways, it was not for us to question –

If the prayers of the society of Friends had been raised for the Government during the continuance of the dreadful contest we had passed through, they were more needed now, when a greater work was before us – The task now is to conquer ourselves; to restrain our own evil passions & propensities, that our prayers may not fall to ashes on our lips – Our actions should now be such as will tend to restore our country to the blessings of peace, and to this end the prayers of all good men & women should be raised to our Father in Heaven – And he desired that our prayers should also ascend unto God, that a blessing may rest upon the Head of our Government, & his advisers –

From the reception granted the committee, they think there is cause for the belief, that their labors will not be lost, and that the impression made upon the President & Secretary of War, may tend to strengthen them in their desires for the promotion of the welfare of our nation –

Lynn 6mo 2 – 1865 –

Samuel Boyce
Committee for New-England
Yearly Meeting" –

All of which is satisfactory to this meeting –

A testimony from Durham Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, was received at this time, & read, & being approved the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting –

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting – Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 15th of 6 mo. 1865

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting, we are informed that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, who composed it last year, viz. David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Aikin Stephen A. Chase, William Fan, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Reede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland of North Providence

Present at this time 27 members

We have also the acceptable company of Francis T. King of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

We appoint Samuel Boyce clerk to this meeting the coming year

It is concluded that the times & places for holding this Meeting the coming year be as follows viz

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 5mo. at 4o clk in the afternoon

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2d month, at 3o clk in the afternoon

And at Newport on 7th day before the commencement of our Yearly Meeting at 6o clk. in the afternoon

---

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 16th of 8 mo. 1865

Present at this time 20 members viz — David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Joseph D. Hoag from Iowa Yearly Meeting, Robert W. Douglas from Indiana Yearly Meeting, and Theophilus E. Beesly from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Satisfactory reasons for the absence at this time of several of the members of this Meeting, are received

The committee continued to complete the negotiation in regard to the sale of Boston Meeting House and lot, presented the following report viz — "To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee to complete the negotiation for the sale of Boston Meeting House & Lot — Report —

That they have had a deed of conveyance of the property drawn up and executed, & the balance due from the sale thereof has been paid them, and after defraying the expenses attendant upon the sale & conveyance, there now remains in their hands the sum of — $9954.04 as per statement annexed — viz —

Whole amount received from the sale.		10275,00
Amount paid G. R. Hichburne Auctioneer as per his bill —	144,37	
" paid Brokers Bill —	150,00	
" for drawing plan —	10,00	
" Revenue Stamps for deed —	10,60	
" for writing deed, & advice Etc —	5,99	320,96
Balance —		$9954,04

Signed 8 mo — 15th — 1865 —
On behalf of the Committee
Samuel Boyce"

Which is satisfactory to the meeting — And the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting, by and with the advice ~~the advice~~ & assistance of our Friends Charles R. Tucker, William A. Robinson, Samuel Boyce, and Stephen A. Chase, are requested to invest said funds in such way as they may deem advisable —

We have received through the correspondents of this Yearly Meeting, an Epistle from London Yearly Meeting, addressed to Friends in North America which has been read, and is acceptable to us; and believing that the interesting contents thereof would be acceptable to Friends, the clerk is directed to cause an edition of 3000 copies to be printed, & to forward them for distribution to our Subordinate meetings —

The equalization of the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting at this time claiming our attention, we appoint our Friends Charles R. Tucker, William C. Taber, William A Robinson, George Rowen, Micajah C. Pratt, John Page, Stephen Beede, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Henry M. Quin Elisha Jones of Windham, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, William Farr, and Alden Sampson to take the subject into deliberate consideration, and report their view, thereon at our next meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 31st of 1 mo. 1866 — Present at this time 19 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David H. Aikin, William C. Taber, William A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, George Bowen, David Kelly, Edward Earle & Joseph Cartland —

We have also the acceptable company of our dear friend Joseph D. Hoag, from Iowa Yearly Meeting —

Our Meeting is now informed by the committee appointed to advise with the Treasurer in regard to the investment of the Boston Meeting House fund that they have purchased 10,000 Dolls City of Boston scrip bearing interest at six per ct, & payable semiannually, which is satisfactory — and our Treasurer is directed to hold said fund in trust in order that it may be appropriated to the purpose of obtaining another house & lot in that city when it shall be deemed advisable — Our treasurer is also requested to settle with Salem Monthly Meeting for money advanced for repairing said house, and also to settle with the committee for money advanced in purchasing the scrip — The income of the fund ~~the fund~~ the Treasurer is to appropriate for such purposes as this meeting may hereafter direct —

The clerk informs that he has caused an edition of 3000 copies of the epistle from London Yearly Meeting addressed to Friends in North America to be printed, & forwarded to our subordinate Meetings —

The committee on the subject of the equalization of the travelling expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting, at this time presented a report, which has been read, & is referred back to the committee for further consideration —

A communication from Iowa Meeting for Sufferings, was received at this time as follows, viz —

To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends —

Dear Friends —

Apprehending a combined and powerful effort will be made during the approaching session of Congress to deprive the freedmen of equal franchise & judicial rights, we have deemed it right to set apart a Committee, whose duty it shall be to watch the progress of events, bearing upon that important subject; and that they select one or two of their number to be in Washington, should they think the exigencies of the case requires it — that they may more effectually bring the concern of this body to bear upon the Legislation on that subject — We desire you, should you feel the concern, to appoint a similar committee, to act in conjunction with us.

By direction and on behalf of Iowa Meeting for Sufferings held 9th of 9mo. 1865.

Eli Jessup Clerk"

And the clerk informs that said communication was not received by him until it was too late to take action thereon.

The clerk is directed to forward a copy of this minute to Iowa Meeting for Sufferings.

We appoint our Friends George Bowen, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Perez Peck, and Charles R. Tucker, to render such care to Friends as they may think necessary, in regard to their obtaining suitable accommodations, or board, at the time of our next Yearly Meeting.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 9th of 6mo. 1866. Present at this time 27 members. Viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David H. Aikin, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Henry M. Minott, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland.

Our beloved friends John Scott, from Baltimore Yearly Meeting; Samuel Bettle, and Marmaduke C. Cope from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; John L. Eddy, David H. Bennett, & Lewis Bedell, from New York Yearly Meeting; Jesse T. Hartley, from Ohio Yearly Meeting; Benjamin Fulgum from Indiana Yearly Meeting; and Eli Jessup from Iowa Yearly Meeting, are also acceptably with us.

The committee on the subject of the equalization of the expenses of Friends attending our Yearly Meeting, again presented their report, as follows, viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings.

The committee appointed in the eighth month to take into consideration the subject of equalizing the travelling expenses of Friends who attend our Yearly Meeting, have conferred together, and are united in recommending that the expenses of such Friends as may attend from the five eastern Quarters "excepting Salem Monthly Meeting" be paid their travelling expenses from Boston to Newport and back; and would recommend that the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting be authorized to pay the amount yearly which may be required for that purpose.

Lynn 10 mo 3 — 1865 —

Geo. Bowen
Micajah C. Pratt
Alden Sampson
Stephen Jones
Joseph Taber
Richard Battey
Wm Farr
Tobias Meader
Charles R. Tucker
John Page"

Which is satisfactory to the meeting —

And we appoint our Friends John Page, Tobias Meader, Henry M. Minott, Stephen Jones, & William Farr, to ascertain what sum is needed to meet said expenses, and to draw the amount thereof from the Treasury, & pay it over to Friends of the Five eastern Quarterly Meetings in accordance with the report of the Committee —

Friends meeting house & lot in Boston being disposed of, & there being no place provided for the holding of Friends meetings there, the committee appointed some years since to take such care as might be necessary in regard to the house & lot, & to the holding of Friends meetings there, are now released from ~~from~~ further service — And Friends who may feel their minds drawn to appoint meetings in that city, are requested to consult and advise with such Friends of Salem Monthly Meeting as may be appointed for that purpose, in order for their approbation, & concurrence, previous to the appointment of meetings in that city — And Salem Monthly Meeting is requested to appoint a committee to whom application is to be made, and unto whom Friends may open their concern, which committee is requested to have a very tender regard for such applications & concerns, & to judge thereof in accordance with what may appear to promote the honor of truth; and render any necessary aid in arranging for the accommodation of such meetings —

Testimonies concerning our late beloved friends Ruth Davis from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, Martha Meader from Salem Quarterly Meeting, Sarah S. Roberts from Dover Quarterly Meeting, and Eliza M. Farr from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, were read and approved; and the clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our Yearly Meeting

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the yearly meeting

Signed in behalf of the meeting — Samuel Boyce Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 14th of 6mo. 1866 –

By the Clerk of our yearly Meeting, we are informed, that the same Friends are appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings who composed it last year, with the exception of Micajah C. Pratt deceased – Viz – David Buffum, Perez Peck Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland of North Providence –

Present at this time 25 members – +

It is concluded that the times and places for holding this Meeting the coming year be as follows – Viz –

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8 mo. at 4 o clk in the afternoon –

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2 mo. at 3 o clk in the afternoon –

And at Newport on 7th day before the commencement of our Yearly Meeting at 6 o clk in the afternoon –

+ We appoint our Friend Samuel Boyce Clerk to this meeting the coming year –

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 15th of 8mo. 1866 – Present at this time 23 members. Viz – David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, Stephen Jones, David K. Aikin, William C. Taber, Alden Sampson, William A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland –

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, John L. Eddy & David W Bennett from NewYork Yearly Meeting, and Jesse T. Hartly from Ohio Yearly Meeting –

We appoint William C. Taber, Charles R. Tucker, William A. Robinson, Newell Hoxie, Samuel Boyce, & David K. Aikin, to consider the most proper method of managing funds left to meetings in trust, & what care and supervision Meetings should have over them, and the manner in which the records and accounts should be kept; and they are requested to report their views thereon, at a future meeting — They are also requested to consider who shall be the beneficiaries of funds left for particular Meetings, when said Meetings becoming small, shall be laid down, and the members attached to some other Meeting —

Several subjects connected with the welfare and best interests of our Society, have at this time claimed our attention, which are left for further consideration —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 6th of 2 mo. 1867 —

Present at this time 17 members, viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Timothy C. Collins, David H. Aikin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, William A. Robinson, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, & Joseph Cartland —

The committee to consider the most proper manner of managing property given to meetings to be held in trust, have at this time presented a report which is as follows, viz —

The committee who were requested to consider the most proper manner of managing property given to meetings to be held in trust, have given the matter their careful consideration; and in order to carry out the following provision of our discipline, viz —

"Executors & Trustees, concerned in wills and settlements are advised to take especial care, that they faithfully discharge their respective trusts, according to the intent of the donors and testators; and that all charitable gifts, legacies, bequests, and settlement of estates by wills or deed, intended or given for the use of the poor, the aged, the impotent, or for putting poor Friends Children to education or apprenticeships, may not be converted or appropriated to any other uses, than such as the donors and testators have directed and enjoined, by legal settlement will or testament, 1715" it is our judgment that Monthly Meetings should observe the following course, that not only in the present, but in future time it may appear that all gifts and legacies have been strictly applied, according to the intention of the donors —

Care should be particularly taken that all title deeds and writings relating to Meeting Houses, burial grounds, and trust property of any kind, held for the use of any part of the Society, as well as all deeds and records relative to donations, and legacies, be deposited in a place of security, and that the custody of them be entrusted to two or more of the overseers of the monthly meeting or other Friends appointed for the purpose —

Monthly Meetings should take care that a correct account of the nature of all trusts, with the names of the Trustees, or if held by the overseers of the Monthly Meeting, to be so stated, of such real or personal property, as they are entrusted with or entitled to, be recorded in a book kept for that purpose, in which should be inserted the place of deposite of the title deeds of such property — In all cases of legacies or donations, copies of the wills, or of the clauses of the wills with the date of Probate, and of the deeds of gift, as far as practicable should be procured and carefully recorded in said book —

Monthly Meetings should exercise due care, that all legacies and donations be properly secured and duly applied, according to the directions of the testators and donors; and in order that the appropriation of these, as well as of all other trust funds, under the care of monthly meetings, may be duly attended to, distinct accounts should be regularly kept of all the receipts and expenditures thereof, by the persons having charge of the same; which accounts should be annually examined by the Monthly Meeting, or a committee appointed by it, and the report of the committee showing the state of each fund, the income and expenditure on account of the trust, with the judgment of the committee in relation to its management should be entered upon the records of the Monthly Meeting — +

When the trust property belongs to or is under the care of any distinct body or committee of Friends, as in the case of schools, and other charitable foundations, it is recommended that the spirit of the foregoing rules should be attended to, and the provisions complied with, as far as circumstances will admit —

Should any meeting be dissolved or cease to retain its distinct character, care should be taken that a minute be previously entered on its books for regularly transferring the property under its direction to the superintendence of the Meeting which may succeed it in authority, in all instances, when the nature of the trust admits of this being done —

Providence 2 mo. 6th 1867 —

+ When the trust property belongs to Preparative or particular meetings, the monthly meeting should exercise the same care & jurisdiction as in all other cases —

Wm C. Taber
Charles R. Tucker
Wm A. Robinson
David K. Akin
Newell Hoxie
Samuel Boyce"

which being approved is accepted; And our Monthly Meetings are requested to observe the recommendations contained in said Report—

The following communication was received at this time from the Committee having charge of our Boarding School; viz—

"To the Meeting for Sufferings—

For some time past the Committee in charge of the Boarding School, as well as those more immediately connected therewith, have felt that the present accommodations for pupils are not adequate to promote their health and comfort — Prominent among the deficiencies in the present arrangement are the dormitories, particularly those in the girls department — The girls trunks are kept in a cold unfinished attic of limited dimensions in the third story — For the girls to complete their toilet it is necessary to pass and repass from the first to the third story over two long cold flights of stairs — It is thought that the frequent passing up and down stairs, now required, is very exposing to the health of the girls, particularly in cold winter weather — It is a very general subject of complaint with parents, that all the girls are obliged to lodge in two large rooms, and have no place during their sojourn at the School where they can retire alone for devotion and for other purposes —

The School also is in great need of better accommodations for the sick, The present nurseries for the boys and girls, are only suitable to receive patients slightly indisposed — Pupils afflicted with contagious diseases, or seriously ill from any other cause, should be placed in quiet, well ventilated rooms, where they can receive careful attention from their parents, or from nurses specially devoted to them — At present there are only two rooms available for such purposes, and these are on the north side of the house, exposed to all the noise of the bell, and the boy's play-ground —

Again the room now devoted to Library purposes is quite too limited in size to hold the constantly increasing number of books belonging to the School — Some 200 volumes are now packed away, unavailable owing to the want of room to receive them — Furthermore many times during the year it is desirable to invite the Friends of the School to attend lectures witness the examination of the pupils at the close of the term, or be present at the exercises connected with the graduating class — The best room for such purposes is the girls School room, which cannot properly accommodate more than 100 persons, and yet about 300 are usually packed into it on the evening preceding the close of a term; from 150 to 200 of these being the officers and friends of the School, and the remainder being members of the School Committee, members of our society living in the vicinity and a few other invited guests — The latter chiefly from a distance —

So limited is the room on such occasions, that even the parents of pupils who live in the vicinity of the School, are necessarily refused admission — To meet these various defects in the present arrangements of the School, it is proposed to erect during the ensuing summer, a three story building, projecting South from the South East corner of the East wing of the present building, and connected therewith on the first and second floors — In this plan [a plan which is presented] the building is 126 feet long, and 40 feet wide, with projections east & west, near the South end — The first floor contains a Library and reading room 37 by 50 feet fitted up with alcoves, for the reception of books minerals and other natural history collections — Connected with this room by a sliding door, is a Hall 37 by 60 feet, to be occupied on all occasions deemed proper by the School Committee — Adjoining this is an apparatus room 14 by 37 feet — The Hall, Library room, and apparatus room, can all be thrown into one room by sliding doors, and about 600 persons can be comfortably seated therein

The second and third stories are devoted entirely to girls dormitories — There are 29 rooms varying in size from 9 by 15 feet (the smallest) to 15 by 15 feet, (the largest) — Each room is supplied with a large closet, and separate means of ventilation — There are also large store closets for bedding &c in each of the upper stories, and proper washing apparatus, and water closets supplied by tanks under the roof — The three stories are heated by hot air, from furnaces located in the basement, ~~in the basement~~ story —

There is also a large reserve cistern, in the basement to be used in case of fire — In consequence of the transfer of the minerals, & apparatus to the new Library and apparatus rooms, & the removal of about 56 girls to the new building, much room will be vacated in the present building — It is proposed to devote a part of this space on the South side of the building to nurseries for the boys and girls, to divide off another portion into separate rooms for the girls, corresponding with those in the proposed building, and to appropriate the remaining space to increasing the somewhat limited sleeping accommodations of the boys, and to other purposes —

Through the efforts of the Alumni Association, upwards of \$10,000 have been very generously contributed by the Friends of the School for the erection of this building — There will also be about \$10,000 on hand next Spring, at the disposal of the School Committee —

It is estimated that the cost of the building, including grading grounds, furnishing, and all other necessary expenses, and also making the required changes in the present building, will not exce $40,000 and perhaps 2000, or 3000 less — It will therefore be necessary to create a debt of from $15,000 to $20,000 —

The committee did not feel authorized to erect the building, and incur so large a debt, without obtaining the sanction of the meeting for Sufferings, and we therefore ask your serious attention to it —

On behalf of the Committee —
Providence 2mo. 5th 1867 — Wm C. Taber
Samuel Boyd Tobey"

And this meeting believing that the good of the school, and the prosperity of the Institution require that increased accommodations for the scholars should be provided, after a time of consideration approves of the several propositions contained in the report; and the committee are therefore authorized to proceed in the erection of an additional building, on the premises of the School house lot as proposed in the foregoing communication —

We appoint our Friends George Bowen, David Buffum, John D. Lang, Perez Peck, & Charles R. Tucker to take such care as may be necessary in regard to Friends' obtaining accommodations for board at the time of our next Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 15th of 6mo. 1867 —

Present at this time 23 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David H. Aikin, William Farr, William C. Taber, Stephen Beede Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland & Tobias Meader —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Marmaduke C. Cope, from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, William Jenkins, & Isaac Stanley, from Ohio Yearly Meeting, Robert W. Douglas, and Daniel McPherson, from Indiana Yearly Meeting, Lindley M. Hoag, from Iowa Yearly Meeting, & Nathan Elliot from Western Yearly Meeting —

The following communication from Baltimore Meeting for Sufferings, was at this time received, viz —

"To New-England Meeting for Sufferings —

Dear Friends — At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore

3 mo. 18th 1867 — The situation of Friends sojourning or living at Washington, claimed the serious consideration of this meeting — They are likely soon to be deprived of the place, in which they have been assembling for worship — As many Friends belonging to the different yearly Meetings, either visit or reside at the seat of Government, it was thought advisable to counsel with the other Meetings for Sufferings on this continent as to the propriety of joint action in the matter of erecting a suitable Meeting House in Washington, where Friends could meet regularly, & public Meetings be held by travelling Friends — The title might be vested in Trustees appointed by the several Meetings contributing —

Taken from the minutes of the Meeting —

"James C Thomas Clk"

Which claiming our solid consideration, we appoint our Friends John D. Lang, Richard Battey, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edward Earl, & Charles R. Tucker, to take the subject into their weighty deliberation, and report their judgment in regard to the proposition at a future Meeting —

A testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Mary T. Varney; & one from the same Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Eunice Day, both endorsed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, were read and approved and the clerk is directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting

A Testimony of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting, endorsed by Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Anna Cates, was read & approved, and the clerk was directed to lay it before yearly Meeting —

We appoint our friends David Buffum, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Samuel Boyce, Charles R. Tucker, David K. Akin, Alden Sampson, Edward Earle, Richard Battey, Abraham Winslow, John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Stephen Bede, and William Farr, to render any necessary assistance, to ministering Friends, travelling among us from abroad, who are in attendance of our Yearly Meeting; and they are authorized to draw on the Treasury for what may be needed for this purpose —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our Yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting — Signed on behalf of the meeting —

Samuel Boyce
Clerk

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 20th of 6mo 1867 —

By the clerk of our Yearly Meeting, we are informed that the following Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the present year viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, of Albion, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland of North Providence, George Howland Jr, Edward W Howland, Charles M. Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles F. Coffin, Matthew Howland, William A. Brown, Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes Jr, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Henry M. Minott and Abraham Winslow —

Present at this time 23 members —

We appoint Samuel Boyce Clerk to this meeting the coming year

It is concluded that the times & places for holding this meeting the present year be as follows — viz —

At Lynn on 4th day before the 3d 5th day in the 8mo. at 4o clk in the afternoon —

At Providence on 4th day before the 1st 5th day in the 2d month at 3o clk in the afternoon —

And at Newport on 7th day before the commencement of our Yearly Meeting, at 6o clk in the afternoon —

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn, 14th of 8mo — 1867 —

Present at this time 28 members — viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William C. Taber, William A. Robinson, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, Charles M. Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles F. Coffin, Matthew Howland, William A. Brown, Newell Ordway, & Abraham Winslow —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, David H Bennett, from Newyork Yearly Meeting, & Robert W. Douglas and Daniel McPherson, from Indiana Yearly Meeting —

The following communication from our Yearly Meeting, was at this time received. viz —

"At New England Yearly Meeting 6th month. 1867 —

The committee of this Meeting appointed last year to unite with ~~other~~ similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings in adopting such measures, as way might open for to promote the cause of Peace, presented the subjoined report, which is very satisfactory to this meeting — This vitally important subject claimed the deep interest of the Meeting, and fervent were our desires that every effort consistent with the truth & with our ancient testimony in relation to the unlawfulness of war, should be pursued, and with this view this Meeting refers the subject to the solid consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings, and they are requested to give it their careful & prayerful attention; and if in their judgment, it is desirable to proceed in adopting any practical measures as a body, previously to our next annual meeting, they are authorized to attend thereto on our behalf, and report next year."

On the reading of the foregoing minute, our minds were introduced into a renewed concern for the faithful maintainance of our ancient testimony against all wars & fightings, & for the spread and promotion of peace on earth and good will to men; and after a time of solid deliberation thereon, we appoint our friends William C. Taber, Samuel Boyce, John Page, Joseph Cartland & Gilbert Congdon, to take the subject into consideration, & report their views at a future meeting, in regard to adopting any practical measures for the furtherance of this object —

The following minute from our last Yearly Meeting was also received. viz —

"Salem, Sandwich and Smithfield Quarterly Meetings propose to this Meeting the consideration of the subject of a revision of our discipline; which is referred to the solid attention of our meeting for Sufferings" —

Whereupon we appoint our Friends John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, George Howland Jr, William C. Taber, David Buffum, David K Akin, Samuel Boyce, Charles F. Coffin, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, John Page, Nathan Breed, Perry Peck, & Joseph Cartland, to give the subject their careful consideration, and report their views in relation thereto, at a future Meeting —

In view of the sufferings of the native tribes of our land, our minds have been introduced at this time into deep feeling and concern, on account of those situated in the far West —

From reports which have come to our knowledge, it appears that hostilities between the Whites, & the Indians have existed for some years past, by which the lives of many have been wantonly sacrificed; and we believe that justice to both parties demands ~~that justice to both parties, demands~~ that a thorough inquiry by those in authority should be made into the cause of these hostilities, and that measures should be instituted without delay, whereby the rights of both parties, may be protected & secured to them, lest a general war with the Indians should be the result —

And, under a weighty exercise of mind, that some action should be taken by this meeting, by bringing the concern before the heads of our Government, we appoint Samuel Boyce, Stephen A. Chase Richard Battey, Stephen Jones, Edward Earle, & George Howland Jr, to make inquiry into the cause of the warfare & strife, which has been waged among them, and to prepare a memorial to those in authority, calling their attention thereto, and requesting that measures be taken for the cessation of hostilities, & for the protection of the mutual rights of all —

At a Special Meeting of our Meeting for Sufferings, held in Providence 5th of 11 mo. 1867 —

Present at this time 20 members, viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, William C. Taber, William A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Edward W. Howland, Charles F. Coffin, & Josiah Holmes Jr —

The clerk informs that this Meeting has been called pursuant to the following notice, viz —

"To Samuel Boyce Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings

Believing there are circumstances which require the attention of our meeting for Sufferings before the next regular Meeting, wilt thou please call a special Meeting of that body to be held in Providence, on third day afternoon at the school house, on the 5th of next month at 3 o clk — 10 mo. 25th 1867 —

Charles R. Tucker Wm A. Robinson Stephen Jones
Wm C. Taber David Buffum Joseph Cartland
Edward W Howland Gilbert Congdon Richard Battey
Nathan Breed"

The committee to prepare a memorial to the Heads of our Government, on behalf of the Indians in the far west inform that they have attended to their appointment, and have prepared an essay which has been presented & read, and after a time of consideration thereon it is concluded to refer the essay to the Committee for revision; and that the disposal thereof be left with them, to be forwarded to Washington at their discretion; and they are authorized if they deem it advisable, to appoint two of their number to proceed to Washington with the memorial & present it to the Heads of our Government — And John D. Lang is added to said committee —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence, 5th of 2 mo. 1868 —

Present at this time 30 members viz — David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David H. Akin, Wm C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, Wm A. Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, David Kelly, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, Charles M. Bailey, Charles F. Coffin, William A. Brown, Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, & Josiah Holmes Jr —

The committee to consider the subject of a revision of our discipline, presented the following Report. viz —

"The committee appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings to consider the subject of a revision of our discipline, referred to that meeting by the Yearly Meeting, have considered the same, & report — That they are united in the belief, that a few changes might usefully be made —

For the Committee

Providence 2 mo. 4th 1868" — Geo. Howland Junr.

which is accepted, and the committee is released from further attention thereto —

The committee to whom was referred for revision, the memorial on behalf of the Indians in the far west, inform that having revised the essay, they appointed two of their number. viz. John D. Lang, & Samuel Boyce to take it to Washington, from whom the following report is now recd. — To wit —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

In accordance with their appointment, the committee having charg of the Memorial on behalf of the Indians, proceeded to Washington, and Spread copies thereof before both Houses of Congress — They called upon several of the officers at the head of our Government, & furnished them with copies of the Memorial, & had an interview with the board of Commissioners appointed by Congress, to make treaties of peace with the Indians, & to provide for them reservations of land upon which they may settle, & adopt the habits of civilized life —

The committee endeavored to impress upon the commissioners the importance & necessity of taking measures for carrying out the provisions made by Congress in the 7 mo. last, for their relief —

Much expression of satisfaction was manifested by those in authority, with the action taken by our Meeting for Sufferings, and an assurance given, that the concern of Friends as set forth in the memorial, would receive their respectful consideration —

The committee hope and trust, that this manifestation of the continued religious concern of Friends for the welfare of the Indians, may Stimulate those in authority, to a more faithful performance of their duty towards this much injured class of our fellow-men —

Providence 2 mo. 1868 —

John D. Lang
Samuel Boyce } Committee

The Memorial is as follows, viz —

To the President of the United States of America, and to the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled —

The Memorial of the Representatives of the yearly Meeting of Friends in New England respectfully represents —

That the Society of Friends since their first settlement in this country, has ever felt and manifested a lively interest in the welfare of of the Aboriginal inhabitants of our land —

We the descendants of the early Friends, still feel this interest as a religious concern, and in pursuance thereof, believe it right thus to address you —

When we consider that the first emigrants to and settlers of our Country, found the Indian race in undisputed possession of this broad land, wherein we dwell, and that now instead of their numerous tribes, but comparatively few and scattered remnants of that once powerful people remain, and that we have entered into, and now enjoy what was once theirs, the enquiry comes home to the present generation, has justice in all cases been meted out to them? —

The advancing tide of emigration, & consequent settlement into the regions west of the Mississippi, has in recent times brought the Indian & the white man, into more immediate contact, and a few months since, we were brought to fear that a System of warfare between the two races would follow, painful to the best feelings of our people to Contemplate —

But we are made rejoicingly to hope from late accounts that the wise and peacable measures adopted by the Government will result in staying the tide of Indian warfare, and we cannot but believe that with justice to all parties, peace may be permanently established in that extended Country —

Kindness, liberality, & good faith towards the Indian, have proved the most effectual means to secure their confidence and good will, & the faithful fulfilment of their treaties of peace; and we earnestly desire that the present favorable opportunity may be used, to urge upon this unfortunate class of our fellowmen, the propriety, of their abandoning their habit of roving and hunting, attended as this course of life is, with much suffering; and of their becoming tillers of the soil, whereby they may enjoy through the aid proffered them by our Government, the comforts of civilized life —

We pray that the hearts of all concerned in the settlement of the questions that arise there, may be so influenced by the Spirit and precepts of our holy religion, that the love of peace may prevail, and that no further danger or bloodshed may be feared —

When we consider the divine precept, that "righteousness exalteth a nation," we have felt a strong solicitude that our nation, should prove itself entitled, in their dealings with the Indian, to stand in this high position, believing as we do, that the blessing of the Almighty Ruler of events will follow such a course —

We would especially urge upon the attention of our rulers, that these Indians have a high claim upon our Country, to be protected by our just laws from those who may be disposed to take advantage of their ignorance or of their vices, to deprive them of their just rights —

We commend this subject to your earnest attention, with fervent desires that He who ruleth in the affairs of men, may give you wisdom to discern, and ability to do that which is right, and remain your friends —

Signed on behalf of a meeting of Representatives aforesaid

Samuel Boyce Clerk"

"Providence 11 mo. 6. 1867" —

All of which is satisfactory to this meeting —

A communication from the Representative meeting of Friends in Newyork, calling the attention of the several meetings for Sufferings to the importance of using united efforts for the relief & amelioration of the condition of the Indians, was recd. and read at this time; and the clerk is directed to acknowledge the receipt thereof & to send them a copy of our memorial, & also a copy of the report of our Committee having charge of it —

A communication from the Representative Meeting of Friends of Iowa Yearly Meeting, was also received at this time as follows, viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends —

The present condition of the Indians has claimed our serious consideration; and after a free interchange of views, we are united in appointing, David Morgan, Enoch Hoag, David Hunt, and James Owen, to labor for the promotion of peace between the Indians & the Whites, as well as the general protection of the Aborigenes in all their rights, by memorializing the proper authorities or otherwise — They are also to labor as way may open for it, for their civilization, & christianity — We invite other Meetings for Sufferings, to cooperate with us, in the prosecution of the concern of this Meeting —

Taken from the Minutes of the Representative Meeting of Iowa Yearly Meeting, held 9 mo. 5th 1867 —

Lawrie Tatum Clerk"

which being read, claimed the consideration of this meeting; and although way does not open at this time for uniting with our dear Friends in the West, by appointing a committee to cooperate with them in their concern as proposed, yet their procedure & movements for the benefit of the Indians meets our cordial approbation; and we would encourage Friends in the West, to embrace every opportunity, & to improve all openings which present, for laboring for the restoration & preservation of peace with the Indian tribes, and for the promotion of their welfare — And the clerk is directed to forward to that meeting an extract of this minute, accompanied by a copy of our memorial and also a copy of the report of the committee, who had charge of taking it to Washington —

We appoint David Buffum, Charles R. Tucker, George Bowen, Richard Battey, & John D. Lang, to take such care as may be necessary in regard to Friends obtaining places for board while in attendance of our Yearly Meeting —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport, 13th of 6mo. 1868 —

Present at this time 35 members viz — David Buffum, Perry Peck, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Alden Sampson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, George Howland jr Edward W. Howland, Charles M. Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles F. Coffin, Matthew Howland, William A. Brown, Newell Ordway Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes jr, & Abraham Winslow —

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Francis T. King from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, William H. Chase from Newyork, Edward C. Young from Ohio, John Henry Douglas, & David McPherson, from Indiana, & William Wetherald from Canada.

The following Communication, was at this time received from Baltimore Meeting for sufferings. viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings of New-England
Yearly Meeting —

Dear Friends —

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore, Third month 16th 1868 —

The subject of the continuation of our efforts in behalf of our brethren of North Carolina, Yearly Meeting, claimed our serious consideration — Begun at a time when war had disheartened our dear Friends, & subjected them to much suffering, the timely aid of our Yearly Meetings, dispersed through the Baltimore association, was the means of stimulating and encouraging them to remain at their homes, and to attempt with renewed spirit, the reparation of their losses — The schools which were subsequently established in every meeting, have awakened an unprecedented interest in education, which continues to increase; whilst the agricultural department of the work, now only just beginning to operate, seems equal in importance & necessity — Our Friends there through various causes, are unable themselves to sustain the work; although they continue to manifest their sense of its importance to them, by rendering what aid they can — We cannot doubt that to abandon the work now, would be to lose much that has already been gained by this important missionary effort, the happy result of which has been we believe greatly to aid the religious awakening which is manifest in several parts of that Yearly Meeting —

We have therefore concluded as the funds contributed for this purpose although carefully husbanded, and we believe judiciously applied by the Baltimore association are nearly exhausted, to again appeal to our Friends of other Yearly Meetings, who so liberally responded to our former solicitations, to aid us in continuing this work, the results of which have been so encouraging to us, and upon which we believe the rich blessing of our Heavenly Father has rested —

Our Clerk was directed to forward a copy of this minute to each of the Meetings for Sufferings on this continent, and to those of London & Dublin —

On behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

James Carey Thomas Clerk"

Which claiming the consideration of this meeting, a deep interest was felt in the cause of education, & in the welfare of our dear Friends of North-Carolina — And in much sympathy for them on account of the sufferings and trials, to which they have been & still are, subjected, this meeting recommends the subject to the solid deliberation of our Yearly Meeting —

A communication from Ohio Meeting for Sufferings was received at this time as follows, viz —

"To New-England Meeting for Sufferings —

At a Meeting for Sufferings of Ohio Yearly Meeting held at Damascus Columbiana Co. Ohio 8th of 5th mo. 1868 —

The subject of protection to the Indian Tribes as brought to the notice of this Meeting, by a communication from Iowa Meeting for Sufferings claiming the consideration of this meeting resulted in the appointment of the following named Friends, a Standing Committee to take such steps in connexion with other meetings for Sufferings as they may deem best to prevent their extinction, & promote their civilization, & Christianization, to wit; William J. Harrison, Parvin Wright, William Catte George H. Jenkins, & John Butler — The clerk was directed to furnish other Meetings for sufferings a copy of this minute. —

Ellwood Ratcliff. Clk"

And the consideration of said communication is referred to our friends John D. Lang, Stephen A. Chase, & Stephen Jones, who are requested to Report at a future meeting —

A testimony from South Kingstown Monthly Meeting endorsed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Timothy C. Collins was read & approved; and the clerk was directed to lay it before our Yearly Meeting —

Testimonies from Salem Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friends Mary Chase, & Anis Horne, have been read and approved; and the clerk was directed to lay them before our Yearly Meeting —

The committee to consider the subject of instituting measures for the greater dissemination of the principles of Peace, presented the following report. viz —

"To the Meeting for Sufferings —

The committee to consider the subject of taking measures for the increased dissemination of our views in regard to the principles of Peace Report —

That they have given this important concern their careful consideration, with earnest desires that they might see what are the pointings of Truth therein —

And after solid deliberation they were united in opinion that an Address to the members of our society & to other Christian professors might at the present time be promotive of good —

Under these feelings the committee have prepared an essay for that purpose, which they herewith present —

Newport 6mo. 13th 1868 —

William C Taber
Samuel Boyce
Gilbert Congdon
Joseph Cartland
John Page"

and the essay being read, & solidly considered was united with, & is as follows — viz — [The essay is placed on file] —

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before our next yearly Meeting —

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the clerk of the yearly Meeting —

Signed on behalf of the meeting
Samuel Boyce
Clerk

6mo 1868 At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 13. 1868

Present members

Gilbert Congdon was appointed clerk for the day

We were informed by the clerk of the Yearly Meeting, that the same friends were appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings who composed it last year with the exception of Joseph Metcalf Samuel Boyd Tobey and Henry M Minott deceased. Their names are as follows David Buffum Perez Peck, John D Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber of Sandwich, Stephen Jones David K Aiken, Stephen A Chase Wm Farr, Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, Aiden Sampson, Wm A Robinson Stephen Reede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R. Tucker Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelley Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland of North Providence, George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, Charles M. Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles F Coffin, Matthew Howland, Wm A Brown, Newell Ordway Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes Jr, and Abrm Winslow.

It was concluded that the regular meetings for the year ensuing, be held as follows:

At Lynn on fourth day before the 3d Fifth day in the 8th month at 4 O clock in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth day before the 1st Fifth day in the 2d month at 3 Oclock in the afternoon.

And at Newport on Seventh day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting, at 6 Oclock in the afternoon.

1868 8mo 19 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 8th mo 19th 1868

Present thirty one members viz David Buffum, Samuel Boyce Wm C Taber, Perez Peck, John D Lang, Joseph Taber of Sandwich, Stephen Jones David K Akin, Stephen A. Chase, Tobias Meader, Aiden Sampson, Wm A. Robinson, Stephen Reede, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland of North Providence, Geo. Howland Jr, Edward W Howland, Charles M Bailey Reuben T Jones, Charles F Coffin, Wm A Brown, Newell Ordway, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes Jr & Abrm Winslow.

We have also the acceptable company of our friends William H Chase and Joseph Haviland of New York Yearly Meeting.

Wm C Taber is appointed clerk for the current year.

The following communication from the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting was received and read and is in course entered on our minutes.

868 8m 19 At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Newport in the 6th month 1868

The following Friends were appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the coming year viz (See previous page)

The essay on the subject of peace prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings was read and after a time of consideration was referred back to that meeting for revision. And said meeting was left at liberty to publish the essay when revised at their discretion.

Our Meeting for Sufferings is requested to print an edition of such testimonials of deceased friends as have been issued since the last printing of memorials by this meeting,

Signed on behalf of the meeting,

Samuel Boyce Clerk

The essay on the subject of peace referred to this meeting by our last Yearly Meeting for revision being under consideration we appoint Stephen A Chase, Joseph Cartland, Wm A Brown, Wm C Taber, Newell Stoxie, Saml Boyce and Geo. Howland Jr, to take it into their deliberate consideration, make a careful revision of the same and if in their judgment a division of the essay into two parts would be advantageous they are authorised to do so. To present the result to another setting of this meeting

The Yearly Meeting having requested our attention to printing such memorials of deceased friends as have been issued since the last book of memorials was printed Wm C Taber, Samuel Boyce & Stephen A Chase are appointed to examine those on record, see that they are in suitable condition for publication and cause as many copies of the same to be printed for distribution among friends as the committee may deem advisable.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, Gideon C Smith and the Treasurer of the School Fund, Thomas Harkness having applied for advice in relation to certain personal property and outstanding claims belonging to their respective trusts we appoint Edward W. Howland, Charles R. Tucker, and Charles F Coffin to render such advice and assistance in the respective cases as in their judgment is required.

An application from Gideon C Smith Treasurer of the Yearly meeting for advice in relation to a donation made by Ebenezer Metcalf to New England Yearly Meeting is referred to Edward W Howland Charles R. Tucker and Thomas Harkness.

A communication from the Representative Meeting of New York Yearly Meeting was received and read and the Clerk was directed to acknowledge the same to that Meeting

Attest Wm C Taber Clerk

At a special setting of our Meeting for Sufferings held in Boston

1869 1mo 15 1mo 15 1869

Present sixteen members viz Perez Peck, David K Akin Stephen A Chase, Wm C Taber, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon Charles R Tucker, Nathan Breed of Lynn, George Bowen, Edward Earle, Geo Howland Jr Edward W. Howland, Charles F. Coffin, Matthew Howland, Wm A Brown and Josiah Holmes Jr.

The clerk informed that this meeting was called in compliance with the following application.

To the clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings

We the undersigned request thee to call a special meeting of the members of the Meeting for Sufferings to be held at the American House, Boston on sixth day next the 15th instant at 11 O clock A.M. to consider the propriety of uniting with committees representing other Yearly Meetings in memorializing our general Government on behalf of the Western Indians and to take such other action on their behalf as way may open for and best Wisdom may direct.

1mo 13 1869	Charles R Tucker	Stephen A Chase	Edwd W. Howland
(Signed)	Geo. Howland Jr	Edward Earle	Wm A Brown
	Matthew Howland	Samuel Boyce	Charles F Coffin
	Geo. Bowen	Nathan Breed	

After a free expression of sentiment and feeling in relation to the treatment received by the Indians from many who have been placed in connection with them by our Government and in a feeling of unity with the concern of our friends of the Western Yearly Meetings on their behalf Gilbert Congdon, George Howland Jr and Wm C Taber were appointed to attend a meeting of the representatives of other Yearly Meetings to be held at Baltimore on the 20th inst. and to unite with them in taking such measures as the Truth may lead them to adopt for the benefit of this much abused people.

Then adjourned Attest Wm C Taber Clerk.

1869 2mo 3

At a meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2mo 3d 1869

Present twenty one members viz Perez Peck, Samuel Boyce Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, Wm A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey John Page Charles R Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie David Kelley, Edward Earl, Joseph Cartland, Geo. Howland Jr, Charles F Coffin Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase and Josiah Holmes Jr.

The Committee to which was ~~referred~~ intrusted the revision of an essay on the subject of peace committed to us by our last Yearly Meeting not being ready to make a united report, is continued to another meeting.

1869 2mo 3 The committee on printing the memorials issued by our Yearly Meeting presented the following report

To the Meeting for Sufferings

The Committee appointed to attend to the printing of the memorials of deceased friends issued since the last were printed report that they have caused an edition of two thousand copies to be printed and distributed in the usual proportions among our members. The imprint embraces memorials of thirteen friends contains and fifty six pages octavo.

2mo 3 1869

Samuel Boyce
Stephen A Chase
Wm C Taber

which is acceptable to this meeting.

The Committee appointed at the request of the Treasurers of the Yearly Meeting, and of the School Fund, report that they have attended to their appointment and have given such advice as circumstances appeared to require, which is satisfactory.

The Committee to advise the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting in relation to the bequest made to our Yearly Meeting by our late friend Ebenezer Metcalf report that the service has been performed.

The unsatisfactory situation of the Records of our Yearly Meeting being presented to us at this time; in order to insure greater security from fire or injury from other causes and also to have them placed where they would be readily accessible we appoint Charles R Tucker Wm A Robinson and Thomas Harkness to procure or erect a safe place of deposit for them in a situation where they would be preserved from dampness or other injury and to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense.

The Committee appointed at a special meeting held 1mo 7 5th presented the following report. They also produced copies of a memorial to Congress prepared by a conference of Friends assembled at Baltimore on the 20th ult. and an abstract of the proceedings of that Conference, which being read were satisfactory to this meeting and the action of the Committee was approved. The memorial to Congress and the absract of the minutes are placed on file.

On reading the above named documents our minds were introduced into renewed sympathy for this oppressed class of our fellow men and earnest desires were felt that we might embrace every opportunity to aid in improving their condition. Under this lively concern for their welfare our friends Wm C Taber, Gilbert Congdon, Geo. Howland Jr. Samuel Boyce Richard Battey, Joseph Cartland & John Page were appointed a

1869 2mo 3 committee to unite with committees of other Yearly Meetings in endeavoring to promote the temporal and spiritual interests of this people by such measures as Friends in the Wisdom of Truth may be led to adopt. And should any friend be drawn to reside among them for the purpose of imparting religious instruction and teaching them the arts of civilized life such persons are requested to open their prospect to the committee who are hereby authorized to give such advice and encouragement as may be needful.

To report their service to a future setting.

The clerk is directed to cause this minute to be inserted in the Friends Review for the general information of our members.

Report

To the Meeting for Sufferings

In pursuance with our appointment we proceeded to Baltimore and had several interviews with friends deputed to represent the Yearly Meetings of New York, Baltimore, Ohio, Indiana, Western and Iowa. In the course of our deliberations the wrongs of the Indian Tribes and the terrible effect of the unrestrained passions of lawless men when permitted to wreak their vengeance and cruelty upon one another were prominently brought before us by the relations of those who had personal knowledge of the situation of affairs on our borders and we were fully impressed with the importance of the concern which friends particularly at the West had been engaged in.

We believed it right for us to unite with the Conference in preparing a memorial to Congress setting forth the evils of the present management of the affairs of Indian the Tribes and urging upon it the duty of civilizing the red man by pursuing a course of policy toward him that would ultimately make him a useful citizen rather than to be engaged in a continued contest with him marked by disease and blood.

We met with much encouragement from interviews had with several public men at Washington. Some of them who had been intimately acquainted with the character and habits of the Indians assured us that from personal intercourse with them, they were satisfied that a pacific policy steadily maintained toward them would be attended with the best results; that if they were treated with justice, kindness and good faith there would be no trouble with them whatever.

The want of a better mode of distributing the subsidies voted by Congress for the benefit of the Indians was much regretted by members of the Senate and House who well knew the wrongs practiced upon them by unprincipled men and it was suggested to us that if conscientious persons could be induced to reside among them for the purpose of

1869 2mo 3 teaching them the truths of Christianity and the arts of civilized life, they would have the countenance and aid of the government and might be used as authorised channels of communication with the Indians.

Copies of the memorial to Congress together with an abstract of the minutes of the Conference are herewith presented.

In conclusion we feel constrained to commend the suffering situation of many of this once numerous and powerful people now reduced and degraded through their own evil propensities and the cupidity and wickedness of many of those who come in contact with them, to the earnest prayerful concern of friends. And may we seek to know, what the Lord our Redeemer, who came himself to seek and to save that which was lost, may require at our hands in relation to this people; and also to ask for ability and strength from Him who can alone qualify for every good word and work to do His will in this respect.

Signed . Wm C Taber
Geo. Howland Jr
Gilbert Congdon

We appoint George Bowen, David Buffum, Charles R Tucker, and Thomas Harkness to take such care as may be necessary to enable friends to obtain suitable accommodations while in attendance of the ensuing Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned Attest Wm C Taber

1869 6mo 12 At a meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 12, 1869

Present twenty five members viz David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D Lang, Saml Boyce Joseph Taber of Sandwich, Stephen Jones David K. Akin Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, ~~Wm A Robinson~~, Stephen Beede Gilbert Congdon, Richard Batley, John Page, Samuel Gifford Nathan Breed George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Edward W Howland, Reuben T. Jones, Newell Ordway, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes & Abraham Winslow. And for the absence of three members sufficient reasons were given.

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends Zaccheus H. Powell, Lewis Bedell, John Wood and Wm R Taber from New York Yearly Meeting; Wm Nicholson of North Carolina; Daniel Hill of Indiana; Eli Newlin and Robert Hodson of Western; and Thomas Pinkham of Iowa Yearly Meetings.

The Committee appointed in the 8th month last to attend to the revision of an address on the subject of peace reported a revision of that part of the ~~address~~ document directed to our members; which being read and

1869 6mo 12 considered was approved and directed to be printed. The portion addressed to other religious professors was also read and with some alterations was approved and also directed to be printed. Our friends George Bowen Joseph Cartland and Edward W Howland are appointed to attend to the printing of 3000 copies of the address to our own members and 5000 copies of that directed "to the professors of the Christian Religion" and to cause the same to be appropriately distributed.

The Committee appointed at our last sitting on the concern in relation to the Western Tribes of Indians presented the following report together with a copy of the proceedings of a joint meeting of the Committees of other Yearly Meetings on the same subject which were read and in accordance with the proposition therein contained our committee is authorized to select two friends to represent our Yearly Meeting in the general executive committee of all the Yearly Meetings.

The report is as follows

The Committee on the concern of Friends for the amelioration of the Indians in the West, report:— That since our last meeting a communication has been received from our friends in the West informing that the Committees of the Yearly Meetings associated in the concern for the christianization and civilization of the Indians have received proposals from our President for the nomination of Friends to be appointed by Government as Indian Agents:— And that the association of committees have appointed an executive committee of two friends from each organized committee upon whom shall devolve the responsibility of making these nominations, and who shall have the general oversight and management of these organizations and they propose that our Yearly Meeting should cooperate with them and appoint two friends to unite with them in the concern. We herewith present extracts from the minutes of the associated committees and we are informed that a meeting of this Executive Committee is to be held at Damascus, Ohio on 4th day 6mo 23d 1869.

On behalf of the Committee
Saml Boyce

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Attest Wm C Taber clerk

1869 6m° 17 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6m° 17 1869

Present thirty three members viz David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D Lang, Saml Boyce, Joseph Taber of Sandwich, Stephen Jones, David K Akin, Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, Wm A Robinson Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles R Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Geo Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Geo Howland Jr Edward W Howland Reuben T. Jones, Charles F Coffin, Matthew Howland, Wm A. Brown, Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes Jr Abraham Winslow & Gideon C Smith.

Wm C Taber is appointed Clerk for one year.

It is concluded that our meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows viz. At Lynn on Fourth day before the 3d Fifth in the Eighth month at 4 Oclock in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth day before the 1st Fifth day in the Second month at 3 Oclock in the afternoon.

At Newport on Sixth day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting, at 6 Oclock in the afternoon.

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the same friends were appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings as composed it last year except Alden Sampson removed without the limits of our Yearly Meeting, and that the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is made ex officio a member of this body.

Edward W Howland and Edward Earle were added to the committ now under appointment on the concern of this meeting on behalf of the Western Indians and they are designated to represent New England Yearly Meeting in the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs to meet at Damascus Ohio on the 23d Inst. and to unite with that Committee in its labors for the benefit of the Indian Tribes placed by our government under the superintendance of Friends.

1869 8m° 18 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 8m° 18 1869

Present twenty four members viz Perez Peck, Samuel Boyce, Stephen A Chase, Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, Wm A Robinson Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Charles R Tucker Lemuel Gifford, Newell Hoxie David Kelley, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Geo. Howland Jr, Charles M. Bailey, Charles F Coffin, Matthew Howland, Wm A Brown, Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes Jr & Gideon C Smith.

The Committee appointed in the 2d month last to provide a safe place of deposit for the books and papers belonging to the Yearly Meeting inform that they have not been unmindful of their appointment

but

1869 8mo 18 but are not yet ready to make a full report. The committee is continued.

We are informed that the books & papers refered to are now in a Bank Vault in a building, corner of North Main and Friend Streets. Thomas Harkness is requested to take the custody of them and he is authorized to permit members of our Society to examine them at his discretion.

Edward Earle on behalf of the deputation to represent New England Yearly Meeting, in the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs informed this meeting verbally, that Edward W Howland and himself attended the sittings of that Committee at Damascus Ohio on the 23d & 24th of 6th month last: That they found an interesting body of friends assembled under a deep religious concern for the welfare of the Indian Tribes placed in charge of Friends by the General Government, and the weight of religious exercise which prevailed thro the different sittings of the Committee, and the care evinced that nothing should be done that might bring dishonor to the blessed cause of our Holy Head and the Church was a strong evidence to their minds that the movement was in the ordering of Divine Providence. A copy of the proceedings of the Committee and also a communication from its Clerk were presented and read and the lively concern of our friends of the associated Yearly Meetings in this very important undertaking is interesting and satisfactory to us. The action of our Committee is also approved.

In accordance with the propositions contained in the communication from the Executive Committee, our Committee on Indian Affairs is directed to make provision for one or more of its number to attend all the sittings of the Executive Committee and the Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is requested to forward to Charles F Coffin of Richmond Indiana Treasurer of the Associated committee of Friends on Indian Affairs three hundred forty dollars ($340-) the amount of our Quota of two thousand dollars, the sum proposed to be raised to carry on this concern.

The Clerk is directed to enter the communication above refered to on our minutes and to inform the Clerk of the Associated Committee of our action in the premises.

Commn from Ass. Ex. Com on Indian Affairs

"At a meeting of 'The Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs' held at Damascus Ohio Sixth month 24th 1869

Whenever a member of this Committee is unable to attend one of its sittings the committee or meeting which he represents is requested to appoint a substitute to attend such meeting of this Committee, and to furnish such substitute with a copy of the minute of his appointment.

Whenever friends of either Yearly Meeting desire to enter upon the work of educating the Indians in any part of the superintendency under our care, they may select the field of labor preferred by them, and notify the Clerk of this

1869 8mo 18 Committee through their representatives herein. Upon receiving information from him that the field is not pre-occupied, they may at once establish and conduct the schools contemplated, reporting to this committee annually in the Seventh month.

It was thought proper that two thousand dollars should be raised for the use of this Committee, by the several Yearly Meetings in the following, proportions, viz.

By	New England Yearly Meetings	17 per cent
"	New York " "	17 " "
"	Philadelphia " "	17 " "
"	Baltimore " "	4 " "
"	North Carolina " "	2 " "
"	Ohio " "	8 " "
"	Indiana " "	17 " "
"	Western " "	10 " "
"	Iowa " "	8 " "
		100.

The clerk was requested to forward a copy of this minute to the clerk of each Committee from which our members derive their appointment, and request that their quota of the sum proposed to be raised be forwarded as early as practicable to our Treasurer Charles F. Coffin Richmond, Indiana.

Extracted from the minutes

John B. Garrett Clerk"

1870 2mo 2 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2mo 2d 1870

Present twenty one members, viz. Perez Peck, Samuel Boyce, Stephen Jones, David K Akin, Wm C Taber, Wm A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Batley, John Page, Charles R Tucker, George Bowen, David Kelley, Edward Earle Joseph Cartland, Edward W Howland, Charles F. Coffin, Newell Ordway, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Josiah Holmes 2 & Gideon C Smith.

We are informed that the sum directed at our last sitting to be paid to the Treasurer of Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs has been paid by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

The clerk reports that he has informed the clerk of the same committ of the action of this meeting.

Our friends Edward W Howland and Edward Earle appointed to represen New England Yearly Meeting in the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs presented the following report, - which was read; - furthe verbal information full of interest in relation to the situation of this much oppressed people was also given by them to the meeting and our feelings have been especially drawn out at this time on their behalf.

1870 2m 2 The service of our friends of this committee has been very satisfactory to us and we would encourage them to persevering prayerful attention to the pointings of duty in regard to these Indians, trusting that the blessing of the Almighty will rest upon their Christian endeavors for the improvement of this ignorant and too generally abused people.

Report

To the Meeting for Sufferings next to be held at Providence

The Committee appointed last Sixth month at Newport to meet with the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs have attended to our appointment. We met with said Committee at Damascus, Ohio in the Sixth month an account of which has been given to this meeting.

We again met at Plainfield Indiana on the 22d of the Ninth month. The committee which was appointed at Damascus to visit the Indians under our care made at this time a very interesting report, which has since been published in Friends Review. Enoch Hoag our Superintendent was prevented from being present but sent in a report in writing of what had been done up to that time, which was listened to with deep interest. Lawrie Tatum one of our Agents was present and gave a detailed account of the condition of the Indians under his care, which was very interesting and encouraging. The Committee renewedly felt the magnitude of the responsibility that rested upon Friends in their acceptance of this great and important trust, and fervent petitions were offered that all the subjects brought before them might receive such careful and weighty consideration as to bring no reproach against our Society, and at the same time that full justice might be done to the poor Indians. Care was taken in selecting committees suitable for the different subjects under consideration.

Our Clerk was directed to inform the Superintendant, Enoch Hoag, and he to notify those under him that none of them must receive any compensation or favor either directly or indirectly on account of being our agents, not even a free ticket over a Rail Road on penalty of dismissal.

Benjamin Tatham, Francis T. King, and Edward W Howland were appoint a committee to advise with and direct Enoch Hoag in transporting and disbursing the money he receives from Government for the Indians, that it may be done in a safe and judicious manner. A committee was appointed upon Education to act when way should open for it. Also one on Farmers and Mechanics who may apply for situations among the Indians. Friends were requested to send such names only as they had entire confidence in and said committee were cautioned against bringing forward any names that they could not freely recommend.

The next meeting of the Committee was held the nineteenth of First month 1870 in Philadelphia. All the Yearly Meetings were rep-

1870 2mo 2 resented except North Carolina. Enoch Hoag was present and gave a circumstantial account of the progress of the work in the several departments and reported as much improvement as could be expected in so short a time. The Committee on education made an acceptable report, and a proposition to ~~appoint~~ employ a suitable man to reside within the reservation and have the oversight of all the Schools, to engage teachers &c was agreed upon. The Committee on Farmers and Mechanics also made a report that they had sent out several persons of both occupations and there is a demand for more; any friends in our Yearly Meeting who would like to engage in these occupations can obtain all necessary information by applying to us.

It was also decided to engage a competant man to visit every agency from time to time — Observe how the work progresses and see what improvements can be suggested and also for him to be present at all our meetings and report his observations and it was also proposed that he should be in Washington more or less during the Sessions of Congress.

Enoch Hoag informed that on the 25th of 2d month there was to be a convention of all the Chiefs under our care and suggested the propriety of a few friends being appointed from this board to meet with them; — the following friends viz Thomas Wistar, Benjamin Tatham, Francis T King and Edward W Howland were appointed to be present at that Convention and also to visit the different tribes in their localities.

The foregoing is a brief outline of the proceedings of the Executive Committee A full report from the minutes will soon be published and distributed.

Providence 2mo 2 1870 Edward W Howland } Committee
Edward Earle }

George Bowen is requested to have the middle part of the meeting house at Newport painted and he is authorised to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost

George Bowen David Buffum and Charles R Tucker are appointed to take such care as may be necessary to enable friends to obtain suitable accommodations while in attendance of the ensuing yearly meeting.

Adjourned.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 10 1870

Present twenty nine members viz David Buffum, Perez Peck, John D Lang, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, Stephen Jones, David K Akin Wm Farr, Wm C Taber, Tobias Meader, Wm A Robinson Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, John Page, Charles Tucker, Lemuel Gifford Nathan Breed of Lynn, Geo. Bowen, Newell Hoxie Edward Earle, Jos. Cartland, Edwd W Howland, Chs. M Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles F Coffin, Matthew Howland

1870 6mo 10 Wm A Brown Newell Ordway Josiah Holmes Jr Abraham Winslow & Gideon C Smith

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends Isaac Robson of the Yearly Meeting of London Davi[illegible] [illegible] Richard [illegible], Edward Tatem and Alden Sampson of New York, Allen Jay of North Carolina, Robert Douglas of Indiana, Eli Newlin David I McMillan, Jehu Newlin & Robert W Hodson of Western and David Hunt, James E Bailey & Lindley M Haag of Iowa.

The committee appointed in the 2d month 1868 to procure a safe place of deposit for the books and papers of the Yearly Meeting presented the following report which is accepted and the same committee with the addition of Newell Hoxie is continued and requested to see that the books are properly placed in the iron safe that has been procured and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorised to pay the amount of the cost.

To the Meeting for Sufferings

The Committee appointed in the 2d month 1868 to procure a safe to keep the book and papers in belonging to the Yearly Meeting have placed at Friends Boarding School an iron safe which weighs 6.015lbs at a cost of about four hundred sixty dollars in their judgment suitable for that purpose.

For the Committee

Newport 6mo 10 1870 Charles R Tucker

The friends appointed to represent this Yearly Meeting in the associated Executive Committee on Indian affairs presented the following report which was acceptable to the meeting.

To the Meeting for Sufferings

In conformity with our appointment we attended a meeting of the associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs held at Damascus Ohio on the 18th & 19th of 5th month last and found a full representation from all the Yearly Meetings within the limits of the United States. Several of the members of this Committee during the past year had spent much time and endured great fatigue and much hardship in visiting the Indians within the territory under the charge of Friends and one of them John Butler of Ohio was in feeble health brought on by exposure during this tour.

We found them alive to the magnitude and importance of the work and withall sensible that it is only by the efficient help and guidance of the good Spirit of our God that any thing can be done for the effectual improvement of this benighted and suffering people.

At the first sitting of the Committee Dr Wm Nicholson of North Carolina was engaged to act as agent in representing the cause of the Indians to the Executive and Congress at Washington for the purpose of forwarding such legislation as their wants require – particularly with reference to the appropriation bill. He is now actively and efficiently engaged in this service. ~~He is also expected to visit~~

1870 6mo 10 "He is also expected to visit all the agencies under our care from time to time and and report their condition to the Committee.

A detailed report of the visit of a sub-committee to the agencies was made a copy of which we hope to present to the meeting.

Another report giving an account of schools already established and the wants of other localities was also presented.

A number of applications from friends for employment in different capacities were accepted and still more are wanted but some embarrasment was felt in regard to funds caused by the failure of Congress to grant the appropriations necessary to carry on farming operations and establish schools.

It was concluded that it would be necessary to raise five thousand dollars to enable the Committee to meet the necessary expenses another year and it was agreed that this sum should be assessed among the Yearly Meetings in the same proportions as last year.

At the closing meeting friends were renewedly brought under a weighty sense of the responsibility of their position and fervent prayers were offered that the blessing of the Lord might rest on the efforts of those who are personally engaged in laboring among this much wronged people. Desires were also expressed that the importance of this concern for the civilization and Christianization of this portion of our fellow men might rest with increased weight on the Church at large

Edward W Howland
Wm C Taber

Interesting statements were made by several friends, visitors & others on the situation and wants of the Indian tribes and our christian duty in relation to them; and to give ~~further~~ opportunity for further action on this highly important subject this meeting is adjourned to 2 O'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Seventh Day the 11th Inst. near the time adjourned to friends again met.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our friends David Hunt, Robert w Hodson, Eli Newlin, Jehu Newlin & Augustus Taber from other Yearly Meetings.

The important subject of the situation of the Western Indians was again before us and much expression of feeling and concern on their account was made. and in order that friends in attendance of this Yearly Meeting may be more fully informed of the different bearings of the case and come to be more fully aware of our duty as professed Christians toward this suffering class of our fellow men a public meeting is appointed to be held on second day evening at 8 O'clock in this house under the care of our members of the Executive Committee on Indian Affairs.

6mo 11. 1870 The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Signed on behalf of the meeting
Wm C Taber Clerk

6mo 17 1870 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 17 1870

The clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following friends have been appointed to compose a Meeting for Sufferings the ensuing year viz David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, Wm C Taber Thomas Harkness John D Lang, Charles R Tucker Henry T. Wood Chs M Bailey, Edward Earle Edward W Howland. Timothy Hanson, Calvin S Goddard, Charles F Coffin George Bowen, Reuben T Jones Josiah Holmes Jr, Perez Peck, Moses Sawyer David K Akin, Wm A Robinson 20, Gilbert Congdon, Eli Jones Stephen Jones Tobias Meader, Richard Battey Moses Bailey, Lemuel Jones Abel C. Munroe, Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland, Jabez Wood Newell Hoxie Newell Ordway, Geo Howland Jr Stephen Chase 30, Wm P Tuttle, Wm C Newhall Timothy R Hussey Wm A Brown, & Saml H. Collom also Gideon C Smith Neas" Yearly Meeting

Of whom the following twenty six members were present viz David Buffum, Samuel Boyce Wm C Taber, Thomas Harkness John D Lang, Charles R Tucker, Charles M Bailey, Edward Earle, Edward W Howland, Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, Reuben T Jones, Josiah Holmes Jr, Perez Peck, David K Akin Wm A Robinson, Gilbert Congdon, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland Newell Hoxie, Newell Ordway George Howland Jr & Wm A Brown.

Wm C Taber is appointed clerk for the day

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friend David Hunt of Iowa Yearly Meeting.

It is concluded that our stated meetings the ensuing year be held as follows viz:

At Lynn on Fourth day before the 3d Fifth day in the eighth month at 4 Oclock P.M.

At Providence on Fourth day before the 1st Fifth day in the second month 1871 at 3 Oclock P.M.

At Newport on Sixth day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6 Oclock P.M.

Then adjourned

8mo 17 1870 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 8mo 17 1870

Present thirty one members viz Saml Boyce, Wm C Taber, Thomas Harkness, Charles R Tucker, Charles M Bailey Edwd W Howland, Timothy Hanson, Charles F Coffin, Geo. Bowen, Josiah Holmes Jr, Perez Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K Akin, Gilbert Congdon, Eli Jones, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey, Lemuel Jones, Abel C Munroe, ~~Jos. Cartland~~, Jabez Wood, Newell Hoxie, Newell Ordway, Geo. Howland Jr, Stephen Chase, Wm J Tuttle, Wm O Newhall, Timo. G Hussey, Wm A Brown & Saml H Colton, and sufficient reasons were given for the absence of five others.

We have the acceptable company of our friend David H. Bennet a minister and member of New York Yearly Meeting.

Wm C. Taber is appointed clerk for the current year.

Our friends Edward W Howland Edward Earle Wm C Taber Gilbert Congdon, Geo. Howland Jr, Saml Boyce, Richard Battey, Joseph Cartland, Moses Sawyer, & Eli Jones, are appointed a committee on the concern of this meeting on behalf of the Indian Tribes placed under the care of friends by the General Government, and the two first named Ed. W Howland & Ed. Earle are designated to represent this Yearly Meeting in the Associated Executive Committee on Indian affairs, and the general committee are empowered to supply any vacancy in the Executive Committee that may occur.

Thomas Harkness is empowered to settle for the storeage of a chest in which the books & papers of this Yearly Meeting have long been kept, and to pay to the extent of fifty dollars for this object. He is requested to keep charge of the key of the safe now at the Boarding School at Providence in which these papers are now about to be placed and he, together with Gilbert Congdon and Wm A Robinson are authorised to permit the examination of them to members of our Yearly Meeting at their discretion.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the rent of the room now used by friends in the City of Boston for a place of public worship until our meeting in the Second month next.

The subject of the Fund arising from the Sale of the Meeting House property in Boston being brought before us, we appoint Newell Hoxie, Wm C Taber, Geo. Howland Jr, Charles R Tucker & Saml Boyce to make a full examination of its origin character & history and report the same to our next meeting. together with their judgment of the right disposition of the principal and income of the Fund.

Then adjourned.

353 /

2mo 1 1871

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence 2mo 1 1871

Present twenty nine members viz Saml. Boyce, Wm C Taber Thomas Harkness, John D Lang, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T Wood, Edwd Earle Edwd W Howland, Timothy Hanson, Chs. F Coffin, Geo. Bowen, Josiah Holmes Jr Perez Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K Akin, Wm A Robinson, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey Abel C Munro, Matthew Howland, Jabez Wood Newell Hoxie Geo. Howland Jr, Stephen Chase, Wm P. Tuttle, Wm C Newhall, Saml. Colton Gideon C. Smith.

Thomas Harkness reports that he has paid fifty dollars for the storage of the chest of books and papers as requested at our last meeting.

The committee appointed with reference to the fund derived from the sale of the Boston meeting house property, reported attention to the subject and that they have collected some information touching the early history of the different buildings occupied by Friends as places for holding their religious meetings in Boston but feel that an extension of time would enable them to make a more full report. The committee is continued.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting informs that he has paid the rent of the room used by some members of our Society residing in Boston as a place for religious worship to this date; and he is further directed to pay to the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting the expense incurred for the rent of the same room, used for the same purpose until our next Meeting.

Charles R Tucker, Thomas Harkness and George Bowen are appointed to take the necessary care in providing homes for friends in attendance of our ensuing Yearly Meeting.

Our friends Edwd W Howland & Ed. Earle appointed to represent New England Yearly Meeting in the Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs presented the following report which was satisfactory, and a verbal relation made by the last named friend of his recent journey through the Indian Territory was interesting and encouraging to us.

Report.

To the Meeting for Sufferings

Dear friends

Since the report of your Committee on Indian Affairs much service has been called for. One of our members attended a general meeting of the Committee held at Damascus, Ohio. The other member has been twice called to Washington on important subjects of consideration; one to a general committee at Mount Pleasant Ohio; and also to an extended visit amongst nearly all the tribes of the Central

2nd 1871 Superintendancy as well as passing through and amongst the four or five more important nations of the great Indian Territory. And in general terms we can say, great and difficult as the work seems, there is no cause for faultering, but in view of our first appointment under Government and its recent renewed expression of confidence in the practical workings of the peaceable principles of Friends and the integrity of their Agents we should renewedly feel called by every moral and christian obligation to persevere in this work, endeavoring to do the abused red man all the good we can, as well as to shew to the World that we are workers as well as professors in doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us

Signed Edwd W Howland }
Edwd Earle } Committee

6mo 9. 1871 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6mo 9 1871

Present thirty eight members viz David Buffum, Samuel Boyce Wm C Taber, Thomas Harkness, John D Lang, Chs. R Tucker, Henry T Wood, Charles M Bailey, Edwd Earle, Edwd W Howland Timothy Hanson, Calvin S Goddard, Chs F Coffin, Geo. Bowen Josiah Holmes Jr Peres Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K Akin Wm J Robinson, Eli Jones, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey Lemuel Jones Abel Munroe Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland Jabez Wood Newell Ordway Geo. Howland Jr Stephen Chase Wm P Tatum, Wm O Newall Timo B Hussey Wm A Brown, Saml H Colton, & Gideon C Smith.

A testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Moses H Beede was read bringing this dear valued friend livingly to our remembrance. Eli Jones & Charles R Tucker together with our clerk are directed to examine the document carefully, make such corrections as may be deemed necessary and lay it before our Yearly Meeting.

A testimony of Sidney Monthly Meeting approved by Fairfield Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Samuel Taylor was read and being approved was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting.

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Thomas H. Taber was also read and being approved by this meeting was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the Treasu of Salem Monthly Meeting the rent of a room occupied by friends residing in Boston for a place of public worship until the sitting of this meeting in the 5th mon next.

6 Mo 9th 1871 The clerk was directed to lay the minutes of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting
Attest Wm C. Taber clerk

---

6 Mo 16th 1871 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Newport 6 Mo 16th 1871

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following friends have been appointed to compose a Meeting for Sufferings the ensuing year. Viz, David Buffum, Samuel

Names of Members Boyce, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Harkness, John D. Lang, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T. Wood, Charles M. Bailey, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Timothy Hanson, Calvin S. Goddard, Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, Reuben T. Jones, Josiah Holmes Jr, Perez Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K. Akin, Wm A. Robinson, Eli Jones, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey, Lemuel Jones, Abel C. Munroe, Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland, Jabez Wood, Newell Hoxie, Newell Ordway George Howland Jr, Stephen Chase, Wm P. Tuttle, Wm O. Newhall Timothy B. Hussey, Wm A. Brown and Samuel H. Colton. 39.

33 members present as follows.

Members present David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Harkness. John D. Lang, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T. Wood, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Timothy Hanson, Calvin S. Goddard Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, Josiah Holmes Jr, Perez Peck, David K. Akin, Wm A. Robinson, Eli Jones, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey, Lemuel Jones, Abel C. Munroe, Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland, Jabez Wood, Newell Ordway, George Howland Jr,, Stephen Chase, Wm O. Newhall, Wm A. Brown, and Samuel H. Colton.

Clk appd Wm O. Newhall is appointed clerk for the year.

Stated Meetings It is concluded that our stated Meetings the ensuing year be held as follows Viz

At Lynn on Fourth Day before the 3d Fifth day in the 8th Mo at 3. O'clk P. M.

At Providence on Fourth day before the 1st Fifth Day in the 2d Mo 1872 at 3 O'clk P. M.

At Newport on Sixth Day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6 O'clk P. M.

6 Mo 16th 1871 The executive committee on Indian affairs have recd. a letter from William Nicholson giving an account of the present

Report of Com on Indian Aff

state of the Indian tribes placed under the care of Friends by the General Government, and we appoint our friend Samuel Boyce to unite with them in examining said letter, and if in their judgement usefulness would result thereby, they are directed to cause 3000 copies to be printed and circulated among friends and others.

Then adjourned.

---

8 Mo 16th 1871 At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Lynn 8th Mo 16th 1871

Members present

Present 28 members viz, Samuel Boyce, Wm. C. Taber, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T. Wood, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Timothy Hanson, Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, Josiah Holmes Jr, Peres Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K. Akin, William A. Robinson, Eli Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Lemuel Jones, Joseph Cartland, Matthew Howland, Jabez Wood, Newell Hoxie, Newell Ordway George Howland Jr, William O. Newhall, Timothy B. Hussey, William A. Brown and Samuel H. Colton. Sufficient reasons have been assigned for the absence of two of our members.

W. H. Chase present

We have at this time the acceptable company of our friend Wm Henry Chase of New York Yearly Meeting.

The following minute from our last Yearly Meeting has been read viz; At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island in the 6th Mo 1871.

Minute of Yly Mtg on London Gen Epistle

The London General Epistle of last year, not having been received by us, we refer the subject of printing and circulating it, to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Meeting
Charles R. Tucker
Clerk

Com appd

The Epistle therein referred to having been received; and believing that usefulness would result from its distribution among our members and others, we appoint our friends, Jabez Wood and Charles R Tucker a committee to cause Four Thousand copies to be printed and forwarded to our several Quarterly

8mo 16th/1871

Meetings, and the Committee are authorised to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the cost incurred.

Minute of Asso Ex Com

A Minute from the "Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs" held at Baltimore 1st of 3rd Mo 1871 is recd as follows Viz "The Committees of the several Yearly Meetings are requested to contribute their respective proportions of Five Thousand Dollars for the use of this Committee, and pay the same to our Treasurer within six months after their next ensuing Yearly Meeting

John B. Garrett
Clerk"

Our proportion directed to be paid

and our Treasurer George Howland Jr of New Bedford Mass is hereby authorised to pay the sum of Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars our proportion of said sum to Charles F. Coffin of Richmond Ind Treasurer of said Committee and the Clerk of this Meeting is directed to inform the Clerk of that Committee of our action in the premises.

G. Bowen's bill ordd to be paid

The Treasurer ~~of our Yearly~~ Meeting is authorised to pay to George Bowen Ten Dollars being the amount of unpaid expenses incident upon the attendance of our last Yearly Meeting.

Com on Boston Mt House & lot report

The Committee appointed in the 8th Mo 1870 in reference to the fund arising from the sale of the Meeting-house and lot in the City of Boston have made a Majority and a Minority report both of which have been read and are referred to our next Meeting for further Consideration.

Rent of room for Boston Mtg order to be paid

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is requested to pay the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting the rent of the room used by Friends in the City of Boston for a place of Public Worship until otherwise ordered provided the sum do not exceed Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars per annum.

Then adjourned

---

1 Mo 31st 1872

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at Providence
1st Mo 31st 1872

We have present 27 Members

Members present

Viz; Samuel Boyce, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Harkness, John D. Lang, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T. Wood, Edward Earle, Edward W.

Mo 31st 1872 Howland, Timothy Hanson, Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, Josiah Holmes Jr, Peres Peck, Moses Sawyer, William A. Robinson, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Abel C. Munroe, Joseph Cartland Jabez Wood, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Chace, William P. Tuttle, William O. Newhall, Timothy B. Hussey, William A. Brown and Samuel H. Colton.

Com on London Gen Epistle — The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to cause a reprint of the "London General Epistle" for the year 1870, report the service performed.

Reports of Com on Boston Mtg house & lot continued — The reports of the Committee appointed in reference to the funds arising from the sale of the Meeting-house and lot in the City of Boston, presented in the 8th Mo last and referred to this Meeting for further consideration, having now, been again read, and considered at length, they are recommitted to the same Committee to extend further care and report at our next Meeting.

Com appd on care of friends attending Yly Mtg — We appoint George Bowen, Charles R. Tucker, Thomas Harkness and Stephen Chace a Committee to take the necessary care in providing homes for Friends in attendance of the Ensuing Yearly Meeting.

N. Breed's bill directed to be paid — The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay Nathan Breed's bill of Twenty-five Dollars for Friends travelling in the Ministry since our last Yearly Meeting.

Report of Indian Com — Our Friends Edward Earle and John D. Lang have given this Meeting very interesting and encouraging verbal accounts of the present condition of the Indian tribes under the care of Friends, and their Efforts in behalf of this deeply injured people ~~are~~ approved by this Meeting, and we desire their encouragement, in the work in which they are engaged.

Then adjourned.

Mo 14th 1872

At a Meeting for Sufferings held at
Newport 6th Mo 14th 1872

Members present — Present 28 members viz David Buffum, Samuel Boyce, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Harkness, John D. Lang, Charles R. Tucker, Henry T. Wood, Charles M. Bailey, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Timothy Hanson, Calvin S. Goddard,

6 Mo 14th 1872

George Bowen, Reuben T. Jones, Josiah Holmes Jr, Peres Peck, Moses Sawyer, David K. Akin, Wm A. Robinson, Eli Jones, Stephen Jones, Tobias Meader, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey, Lemuel Jones, Abel C. Munroe, Joseph Cartland, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Chace, Wm O. Newhall and Samuel H. Colton, for the absence of one a sufficient reason is assigned.

Strangers present

We have at this time the company of our friends Lindley M. Hoag of Iowa Yearly Meeting and Allen M. Dorland of Canada Yearly Meeting.

Com on Boston Mtg House & lot continued

The committee appointed in reference to the Boston Meeting House and lot, not being prepared to report at this time is continued.

Paymt of Wesleyan Hall directed to be paid

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting the rent of Wesleyan Hall in the city of Boston, vis, Four Hundred and Fifty Dollars per annum, for the use of Friends the ensuing year to hold their Meetings in, commencing the 1st of next Mo.

A testimony concerning G. Congdon

A testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Gilbert Congdon has been read and being approved was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting. The Memory of our dear departed friend has thus been sweetly brought to our remembrance.

Testimony concerning S. Howland

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting approved by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Susan Howland was also read and being approved was directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting. Her Memory is precious to many.

The Clerk was directed to lay the records of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

William O. Newhall
Clerk

1872
6 Mo 21

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 21st 1872

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following Friends have been appointed to compose a Representative Meeting the ensuing year Viz – 1 David Buffum, 2 Peres Peck. 3 Samuel Boyce, 4 Wm A. Robinson, 5 Wm C. Taber, 6 George Howland Jr, 7 Charles R. Tucker, 8 Ellen K. Buffum, 9 Henry T. Wood, 10 Stephen Jones, 11 Edward Earle, 12 Elisa B. Boyce 13 Edward W. Howland, 14 Charles F. Coffin, 15 George Bowen, 16 Rachel S. Howland, 17 Reuben T. Jones, 18 George Douglas, 19 David K. Akin, 20 Hannah G. Sawyer, 21 Eli Jones, 22 Jane C. Minot, 23 Richard Battey, 24 Jacob K. Purinton, 25 Moses Bailey, 26 Ann B. Earle, 27 Lemuel Jones, 28 Thomas B. Nichols, 29 Joseph Cartland, 30 Newell Hoxie 31 Sybil Jones, 32 Stephen Chace, 33 Timothy B. Hussey, 34 Wm O. Newhall, 35 Samuel H. Colton, 36 Gertrude W. Cartland, 37 Thomas E. Steere, 38 Hannah J. Bailey, 39 Moses Sawyer, 40 Susan Taber, 41 Sarah W. Farr and 42 Owen Dame. — Names of members

Of whom the following Thirty one members are present Viz – 1 Peres Peck, 2 Samuel Boyce, 3 Wm A. Robinson, 4 Wm C. Taber, 5 George Howland Jr, 6 Charles R. Tucker, 7 Ellen K. Buffum, 8 Henry T. Wood, 9 Stephen Jones, 10 Edward Earle, 11 Elisa B. Boyce, 12 Edward W. Howland, 13 George Bowen, 14 Reuben T. Jones, 15 Hannah G. Sawyer, 16 Eli Jones, 17 Jane C. Minot, 18 Richard Battey, 19 Moses Bailey, 20 Lemuel Jones, 21 Joseph Cartland, 22 Newell Hoxie, 23 Sybil Jones, 24 Stephen Chace, 25 Wm O. Newhall, 26 Samuel H. Colton, 27 Thomas E. Steere, 28 Hannah J. Bailey, 29 Moses Sawyer, 30 Susan Taber and 31 Owen Dame. — Members present

Clk appd — Wm O. Newhall is appointed Clerk for the ensuing year.

Stated Mtgs — It is concluded that our stated Meetings the ensuing year be held as follows viz –

At Lynn on Fourth day before the third fifth day in the 8th Mo at 3. O'clk P.M.

At Providence on Fourth day before the 1st Fifth day in the 2d Mo at 3, O'clk P.M.

At Newport on Sixth day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6 O,clk P.M.

Then adjourned.

8 mo 14th 1872

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn 8th Mo 14th 1872

Names of Members present

Present Twenty Six Members Viz Peres Peak, Samuel Boyce, Wm A. Robinson, Wm C. Taber, George Howland Jr, Henry T. Wood, Edward Earle Eliza B. Boyce, Edward W. Howland, Charles F. Coffin, George Bowen, George Douglass, David K. Akin, Eli Jones, Richard Batty, Jacob K. Purinton, Ann B. Earle, Lemuel Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Joseph Cartland Timothy B. Hussey, Wm O. Newhall, Samuel H. Colton, Thomas E. Steere Susan Taber, and Owen Dame, for the absence of Eleven others sufficient reasons have been assigned.

S. Chace's bill directed to be paid

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay Stephen Chace's bill of Twenty Eight Dollars for board of Friends in attendance of our last Yearly Meeting.

Com on Expenses of travelling friends

We appoint our friends Eli Jones, Wm A. Robinson, Edward W. Howland, Samuel Boyce, George Bowen, Edward Earle, Wm C. Taber and Charles F. Coffin a Committee to take into consideration the subject of the Expenses of Friends from other Yearly Meetings travelling in the Ministry within the limits of this Yearly Meeting and report to our Next Meeting.

Com on Boston Mt House & lot reapp.d

We re-appoint our friends Newell Hoxie Wm C. Taber, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker and Samuel Boyce a committee to take the subject of the history of the origin of the fund arising from the sale of the "Boston Meeting House and lot" into consideration and report to our Next Meeting, and they are excused from giving their judgment of the disposition of the principal and income of the fund.

T. E. Steere app.d as custodian of Books & Key of Y.Y. Mtg

Our friend Thomas Harkness who for several years has had the custody of the books and papers of our Yearly Meeting and the Key of the safe in which they are kept at the Boarding School at Providence, not now being a member of this Meeting, we appoint Thomas E. Steere in his place, and he, together with Joseph Cartland, Wm A. Robinson and Ellen K. Buffum are authorized to permit the Examination of these books and papers to members of our Yearly Meeting at their discression.

Indian Com app.d

We appoint our friends Edward W. Howland, Edward Earle, Wm C. Taber, George Howland Jr. Samuel Boyce, Richard Batty, Joseph Cartland, Moses Sawyer,

1872
8 mo 14

Eli Jones, Ann B. Earle, Ellen K. Buffum, Susan Taber and Eliza B. Boyce a committee on the concern of this Meeting on behalf of the Indian tribes, placed under the care of Friends by the General Government. The two first named friends viz Edward W. Howland and Edward Earle are designated to represent this Yearly Meeting in the "Associated Executive Committee of the different Yearly Meetings on Indian Affairs". And the general Committee are empowered to fill any vacancy that may occur in the executive committee, and they are requested to report to this Meeting at its session in the Sixth Month next.

Ex Com on
Indian Affis

The Treasurer of our Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the Treasurer of the Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs, the sum of three Hundred and Forty Dollars, our proportion of the sum necessary to be raised by the different Yearly Meetings to carry on the concern of Friends.

Treasurer di
ected to pay
to Assn Ex Com
our proportion

Our friend Edward Earle on behalf of the late committee on Indian Affairs, gave this Meeting an interesting account of the labors of the Associated Executive Committee and some of the agents under their direction, with information that the above Committee were about publishing a report of their doings; this Meeting beleiving that a more extended circulation of this report, would be a means of spreading much valuable information and of awakening a more lively interest in this deeply interesting and very important concern, he is authorized to purchase copies of said report to an amount not exceeding Fifty Dollars and draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the same.

Report of late
Ex Com &
copies thereof
rder to be
purchased

Our attention being called to Minute No. 46 of our last Yearly Meeting, by which it appears this Meeting is authorized, should such action be found necessary to procure on behalf of the Yearly Meeting any legislation to legalize the provisions of the rules of discipline adopted by the Yearly Meeting upon the subject of marriage; whereupon we appoint Eli Jones for the State of Maine, Moses Sawyer for New Hampshire Owen Dame for Mass and Joseph Cartland for R.I. to take the necessary care in the case.

Legislation
on the subject
of marriage

Then adjourned

1873-2 Mo 5

At a Representative Meeting held at Providence 2nd Mo 5th 1873.

Members present

Present at this time 24 Members; viz, Peres Peck, Wm C. Taber, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker Ellen K. Buffum, Henry T. Wood, Stephen Jones, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Charles F. Coffin, David K. Akin, Eli Jones, Richard Battey, Moses Bailey, Ann B. Earle, Thomas B. Nichols, Joseph Cartland, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Chace, William O. Newhall, Samuel H. Colton, Gertrude W. Cartland, Hannah J. Bailey, Moses Sawyer and Owen Dame, for the absence of several others sufficient reasons have been assigned.

Com on travelling Expenses Contin

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to take into consideration the subject of the expenses of Friends travelling in the Ministry from other Yearly Meetings within the limits of this Yearly Meeting not being prepared to report is continued and desired to report at our Meeting in the 6th Month next.

Report of Com on Boston M. House & Lot in Boston

The committee appointed in reference to the origin of the fund arising from the sale of the Meeting House and Lot in the City of Boston have made a report which is satisfactory to this Meeting and the Committee is released from further service. The Report is directed to be recorded and is as follows, viz;

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting.

Your Committee re-appointed in the 8th Mo last to collect and report the origin and history of Friends Meeting Houses property &c formerly in Boston present the following.

"There was a Quakers Meeting in Boston May 4th 1664" of which some account is given by George Bishop in New England Judged page 434 & 437. Snow's History of Boston, says, "The first Meeting held in Boston, was held at Edward Wanton's house May 4th 1664, and that Edward Wanton was one of the officers under the gallows at the time of Mary Dyers death in 1660, and was so affected that he became a convert to the Society".

Bowen in the "Annals of Boston", says, "The Quakers Meeting was held in Brattle Street from 1664 to 1708" which seems to indicate that Edward Wanton's house stood in Brattle St, and the time to include the use of

873. 2mo 5 both dwelling house and Meeting house. Nathl. B. Shurtleff in his late Historical work on Boston, p 228 says, "During the Colonial government of Mass the society of Friends had no regular place of worship, although Meetings for religious worship were held as frequently as the defenceless condition of the society would allow, the earliest account, of which any has been preserved, being on the 4th of May 1664, about 10 mos prior to Gov Endicots decease; and that on the adoption of the Provincial Charter Oct 7th 1691 (received in Boston May 14th 1692) the society was placed nearer on an equality with other sects of Christians"

And Bowden speaks of the regular holding of Meetings there in 1675 - page 291. "In 8th Mo 1656 Nicholas Upshall an aged and feeble man, a church member and an Innholder, at the corner of Red-Lion lane and the Towne Street next the sea" gave offence by expressing his disapprobation of the law, just then passed, which was proclaimed through the Streets and before his door by beat of drum, prohibiting any Quakers from coming or being brought into their jurisdiction on pain of imprisonment and banishment; and the next day was had before the magistrate and fined, imprisoned and finally banished the Colony. He went to Sandwich where he found a kind shelter for the Winter, and then to Rhode Island; "after about five years" he was permitted to return. In 1st Mo 1658 another law was passed that "no inhabitant Entertaining person commonly called a Quaker under the penalty of 5 £ a whipping". Nicholas Upshall having experinced the inconvenience of such a law, and the need of such accommodation, after his return, reopened his house and furnished a small room in it, for the use of the Quakers or travelling Friends, and in his will made soon after; viz, Aug 9th 1666 (he died Aug 20th 1666) he gave to or such servants of the Lord as are commonly called Quakers, the use of the room and its furniture, in his house," describing and bounding it; "also I give to the said society of Quakers my chest with all my books and papers therein lying, with a table in the room &c — and my will is that if my executrix or my daughter Cook shall see meet to set a house on any part of my land for the use of the Quakers, that then it shall be built 24 ft in length and 18 ft wide with a chimney, and said bed, bedstead and table shall be for their company." (see his will Probate Record Boston Vol 1st page 490.)

Edward Shippen of Boston was directed by the Yearly Meeting to supply such friends as shall come to Boston, and Thomas Rodman (then Treasurer) to discharge it. Y. M. Record. It appears that the project of a Mt-House in Boston was discussed as early as 12mo 1690

1873, 2 mo 5
Report of com on Boston Mt House & Lot

(see Sandwich Quarterly Meeting Records) "Then agreed that a proposition for buying a place for a Mt-House in Boston be further proposed to the Half Years Mtg at Sandwich". (It was frequent for the Yly Mtg, at that time to send out its propositions for the Qr & Mo Mtgs to discuss, and return their sense and judgment in the case.

1694 - 4 Mo 7th The Yly Mtg R - says "Whereas Nicholas Upshall of Boston did formerly bequeath unto us the people of God, in scorn called Quakers, a chamber and furniture in Boston, but not having recd the benefit of it; do now give power and order our friends Edd Shippen and Edward Wanton to agree and sell the aforesaid privilege and right in the same for such sum of Money as they shall agree for, and such discharge in their names shall be a sufficient discharge in the behalf of the rest of the body of Friends called Quakers". "And Edward Shippen having given Friends the offer of a piece of land on Brattle St; (then Brattle's pasture it stood where the Quincy House now stands opposite the Brattle St Church - says Shurtleff,) 24 ft by 48 ft says Y M R = 25½ by 108 says Snow; "to build a Meeting House on, and to bury Friends in, they accepted it; and Edward Shippen was agreed with to build a Mtg House 20 by 24, and the Money from Nicholas Upshall's chamber to go towards it; and Friends of this Meeting will reimburse them". This was of brick. See Deed annexed No 1.

1695 The Yearly Meeting had paid 116£ towards it, and there were 86£ More wanted. 1697. A committee was appointed by the Yly Mtg to collect further in their several Mtgs what Friends shall give for Boston Mtg House, Viz, for New Port John Easton and Wm Allen For Portsmouth Jacob Mott & Matthew Borden, Jamestown Ebenezer Slocum, Kingstown Joseph Hull & Wm Gardner — Warwick, Benja Barton — Providence Daniel Abbott — Swanzey - William Chace, Sandwich - Wm Allen and Daniel Butler - Dartmouth, John Tucker and Jacob Mott Jr. (The Yly Mtg raised its funds by contribution at that time). No report from that Committee is found and no record of the payment of balance, probably they collected enough and paid it. Wm Mumford it appears now offered land on Leveretts lane now Congress St, for a new Mtg House, what induced the change so soon is not apparent. And the Yly Mtg appoints John Soames Wm Chamberlain, Richard Estes, Edward Wanton and Robert Barker a com to inspect the ground belonging to Boston Mtg House in answer to Wm Mumford — a verbal report probably.

1700 - The Yly Mtg directs a Mo Mtg to be kept in Boston on Sixth day

873. 2d Mo 5. before the Yearly Meeting at Lynn, by desire of Salem and Lynn Friends.

Report of Com on Boston Mtg House & Lot- This appears to be Salem Monthly Meeting now to be held a part of the time in Boston; or soon became such.

In 1679 a law was made that no Mt-House should be built, or made use of, for Meetings, without the consent of the town, and license of the County Court, or by order of the General Court, on pain of forfeiture of both house and lot or of being demolished; See Mass Colonial Laws. And a law was also passed, it would seem, requiring Meeting Houses to be registered. For in 1703 the Yly Mtg "ordered Friends Mtg Houses to be registered according to law"

1705 – Salem Quarterly Meeting set up.

1708 – "Salem Quarterly Mtg having offered a draft of a piece of land in Boston for a Meeting House lot and burial ground, which is approved of, and concluded to be purchased, that a Mtg House 30 by 35 ft, and 20 ft stud be built, provided leave be obtained to build of wood; and Samuel Collins, Walter Newbury, Jacob Mott Jr., John Wing and Thomas Richardson are appointed a committee to take the whole work and proceed therein with as much speed as conviency will admit; and to dispose and make sale of the old Mtg house; and the produce thereof to employ towards building the same; and this Meeting does engage to supply with what money shall be wanted to perfect the same.

"It is also agreed that the Committee may take or leave that" piece of land that lies behind Wm Mumford's, as they in discretion shall think meet."

1709. "It being proposed at our last Yearly Meeting by the Representatives of Salem Quarterly Meeting concerning purchasing a parcel of land in Boston, to build a Meeting house on, the Friends that were employed in that service have met with some discouragement in building the house of timber, but it is thought better to build the same of brick, and they have computed the charge of such a brick house to amount to, 350£, land 90£, Making 440£. the Old Mtg House to be sold for 180£. then remains 260£ which is to be raised." "Therefore this Yearly Meeting desires the representatives of each Q. Mtg to take the same under their care; to communicate this matter to the several weekly Meetings or Preparative Mtgs and to their Mo Mtgs. that collections may be made for the discharge

367

73-2m 5th of the same, and make return to Thomas Rodman (who was Clerk at that time and seems to have been Treasurer also,) by the middle of sixth Month next, in order that he may communicate what is done, to our Friends in Pennsylvania, having Encouragement that they will do something to help bear the charge, and there is now expected about four score pounds from that Meeting."

"Being informed by our Friend Joseph Smith that Friends of Barbadoes have collected some money on purpose to help forward the building of Boston Meeting house, Thomas Rodman and Abram Anthony are desired to write to John Groves and order the same to be shipped for Rhode Island and consigned to said Thomas Rodman by the first opportunity. (see letter dated 10 Mo 2d 1710 on Yly Mt Record.) (Annexed see deed of sale of Brattle St house and lot No 2) (N.B. Shurleff thinks there were no burials in Brattle St yard, for John Soames was buried in "Copps Hill Cemetery" Nov 16th 1700 aged 52 years — and Wm Mumford likewise was buried there Nov 21st 1718 aged 77 years.) and Deed of first Congress St land No 3.

1710 - Committee report about 200£ lacking.

1711 - Friends of Phila ordered 100£ towards building Boston Meeting House.

"John Wanton and Wm Wilkinson are appointed to audit Thomas Richardsons acct - and the charge of building the Meeting House in Boston."

1711 "An acct recd from Samuel Collins, Walter Newbury and Thomas Richardson of the charge of building Boston Mtg House; and John Wanton and Wm Wilkinson after examination of said accounts do make report to this Meeting that there remains due from said Friends to this Meeting the sum of 38£ 7s 8d that is to say when all is received."

"The Effects sent from Friends in Barbadoes towards building Boston Mtg House being ordered into the hands of Abram Anthony Jr he has delivered an approved account thereof to this Meeting, and there remains in his hands the sum of 30£."

"This Mtg orders John Stanton Jr and Thomas Leach to receive said sum yet resting in the hands of Samuel Collins and others, and therewith discharge John Stanton's bond for money taken on interest; being 50£ for service of said house, and what remains of said sum to rest in the hands of Walter Newbury and Thomas Richardson Jr for account and service of the Yly Mtg."

1873. 2d Mo 5th 1712. "The proprietory of Boston Mtg House residing now in Samuel Collins and Thomas Richardson; it is ordered that they make conveyance thereof according to the method approved among Fri. to seven Friends, viz, to Richard Estis, Walter Newbury, Joseph Boyce, Robert Buffum, Ebenezer Hawkes, Thomas Farrar and John Rodman";

(1712- A yearly Meeting for worship ordered to be held in Boston, probably the one that would have been held in Lynn)

"John Stanton Jr having received the Money of Thomas Leach and Thomas Richardson sufficient to dischange the bond for money taken up — there still remains in the hands of Thomas Leach the sum of 14£ 6S. 9d as per bill under his hand, and in the hands of Thomas Richardson and Walter Newbury the sum of 11£. 17.S. 9d as per acct now brought in and approved!"

"Thomas Leach's bill being in the hands of Thomas **Rodman**.!"

1713-page 78. "Friends of Yarmouth being about to build a new Meeting house there, and want some assistance, this ~~Yearly~~ Meeting orders that they be supplied with the money laying in the hands of Thomas Richardson and Walter Newbury, either in money or nails or whatever they may have occasion for, to be delivered to John Wing or his order for said use."

1713. p 80. "Whereas Samuel Collins and Thomas Richardson were appointed last Yearly Mtg to get a Deed of conveyance for the Meeting House at Boston, and having not performed the same, they are desired to take care that it be done speedily as can, and the conveyance made to proper Friends; and John Wanton is desired to assist the above Friends in getting it effected."

1713. p 80 "Friends of Boston having an opportunity to buy a small piece of land adjoining to their Mtg House desires their Mo Mtg have liberty to purchase the same with the money remaining in the hands of Walter Newbury who is desired to render account thereof, and what has been paid him on that account since the last account was made up, at the last Yearly Meeting to the next Yearly Meeting".

1714 p 84. "An acct of the Mtg House rendered. Land to be examined - and to report their thoughts thereon". (See Deed of second piece of Congress St land No. 4.)

1714 p 85 "Agreed that there be speedily a Deed of the two pieces of land in Boston, and Joshua Buffum, Joseph Boyce, Robert Buffum, Matthew Estis and Walter Newbury be inserted as **Trustees**!" "An acct of the last piece of land bought of Wm Mumford examined, and the balance due 22£. 14.S. 2d

1873, 2d Mo 5th which this Meeting orders paid, Viz, Rhode Island 15£, Salem and Sandwich 5£ and the remainder 2£. 14s. 2d Walter Newbury gives as his proportion!"

1716 - p. 93. No Deed — "To be done without delay!"

1717 - p. 96 No Deed — "Committee directed to Meet at Boston the 26th inst for that purpose"!

1718 - p 100. "Those Friends who were concerned in the settlement of the Mtg House in Boston make report that the same was perfected according to the direction of the last Yearly Meeting."
See Deed No 5.

In 1760 the Mtg house was burnt in the "great fire" which consumed 133 dwelling houses, 36 barns, 63 stores, 66 shops &c &c estimated loss 71,000£. to relieve which a large sum was contributed by the public, whether Friends received a share does not appear. But the Yearly Meeting raised money and caused the house to be repaired.

Boundaries settled. see documents Nos 6 & 7.

1761 - The former Trustees Samuel Pope, Joshua Buffum and Matthew Estes being the survivors of the grantees, now conveyed the property to Ebenezer Pope, John Phillips, Joseph Southwick and others. see Deed No 8.

1774 Salem Mo Mtg held at Boston in the 11th Mo, the record speaks of it. Being a time of difficulty in Boston on account of the present calamity (the war) and the same likely to attend them through the winter — Boston Mo Mtg is dropped.

1775 There were but Eleven Friends in Boston. See Snow's History.

1792 Boston Preparative Meeting discontinued and its Members annexed to Lynn. See Salem Records.

1802 - Ebenezer Pope and John Phillips being the only survivors of the last named grantees, conveyed the property without the assent of the Yearly Meeting, to Edmund Needham, Daniel Needham and others — see Deed No 9

1808 Boston Mtg for worship discontinued.

1815 Samuel Rodman and Wm Rotch Jr were appointed by the Yly Mtg. to receive the Deed of trust of Boston Mtg house for this Mtg. (But they declined giving it)

Now see R of Mtg for Sufferings.

1822 - 5/ p-228 - Com appd to get conveyance from the present Trustees, as well as from the heirs at law of John Phillips the Trustee associated with Ebenezer Pope.

373. 2m 5 1822 - 8/ p 230 Committee report no prospect. Legal counsel to be obtained.

No 10 {see correspondence of heirs of John Phillips.
see opinion of J. Pickering & B. Merrill
and opinion of Wm Prescott.

1823 - 9/ p 237 Salem Overseers requested to act in the case.

1824 2/ p 244 Yearly Mtg petitions R Island for act of incorporation.
see act p 278. Y Mtg R.

1825 2/ p 251 Overseers of Salem report, they have sold the Mtg house in Boston for 160 $ net ballance, which is directed to be used in paying expenses of recovering the title to the premises.

1825 - 2/ p 251 A. Committee viz —
to examine the records of the Yearly Mtg and other Mtgs which have taken cognizance of the subject, purchasing the lot, building the house &c and also to procure a copy of the proceedings of the Supreme Court in the case, as a Court of Equity or Chancery.

1825 - 3/ p 252 The Com report, the copies are ready, and the case now clear, and that Friends may take possession without delay.

The title had now been vested by the supreme court in Salem Overseers; and the heirs of John Phillips had surrendered their title. See order of the Supreme Court No 11 and Deed No 12.

1825 - 5/ Salem Overseers directed to sell the house.

1825 - 8/ p 256 A Committee appointed viz —
to sell the land, remove the remains, and to purchase another lot to be applied to the use to which the former was appropriated by the original grantor and donor.

1827 - 8/ p 269 It being understood that 3500 $ will satisfy Salem Mo Mtg for their claims &c &c, it is recommended that the Com pay it; provided they relinquish all claims to said property, and release the Yearly Meeting from services rendered, and sums expended by them. And the balance to be paid into the Yearly Meeting Treasury &c.

1827 - 8/ See Salem Record — A communication from the "Meeting for Sufferings" is received — They accept the offer of 3500 $ for monies expended in recovering the title to Boston Mtg House lot and relinquish their claim "and also convey all the interest this Meeting has in said lot agreeable to the wishes of the Meeting for Sufferings.

1828 - 2/ p 277 The Yearly Meeting askd Massachusetts for an act of incorporation.

1828 2/28 p 278 New England Yearly Meeting incorporated and allowed

1873. 2 mo 5 to hold property, the Net income of which shall not exceed 3000 $ See act Y Mtg R p

1828–1 The Deed of the lot of land to be purchased, directed to be taken in the name of the Yearly Meeting in its legal capacity

Wm Almy, Thomas Howland, John Osborne, Abram Sherman Jr and Wm Jenkins appointed to carry the above into effect.

1829–10/ See Salem Record. Where they acknowledge the receipt by the Overseers of the 3500 $ with interest, amounting to 3727.50/100 $ and direct their Overseers to give the Treasurer of the Yly Mtg a receipt in full of all demands and claims that Meeting has to said lot.

1829–11/ p 297 Report of above Com Wm Almy and others – Congress St lot sold to Dr Edward H. Robbins for 22,000 $, Milton place lot taken in part pay 8000 $ and the Deed is to "The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England". It is a Warrantee, without conditions or limitations except no building to be erected within ten feet of Milton place. Dr Robbins bond taken for 14,000 $ with interest from 9/1 1828 secured by mortgage on Congress St lot

Bond paid 10/1 1829	$14,910,00
Paid Salem Mo Mtg 3500 $ with Int	3727.50
Paid taxes $71. and other expenses	472,34
other expenses say	25.00
Balance in Providence Bank	10685.16

See Deed No 13 of Congress St lot
" " " 14 Y Mtg Quit Claim
" " " 15 E. H. R Mortgage

1830 – 8/ p 308 Contract for building Meeting house in Milton Place, for 7600 $.

1831– 2/ p 313 Another act of incorporation in Rhode Island; amount of property in Mo Mtgs not to exceed 25000 $ and Preparative Meetings 5000 $.

1831– 5/ p 315 Committee report, Meeting house finished. Description of it – size 60 by 40 – built for 7600 $ – Expense of fence &c $1,723.14 – and $ 9323.14 which with the lot $ 8000 makes whole cost $ 17323.14

1831– 8/ p 317 & 322 Care of the Mtg house committed to Salem Mo Mtg.

1831– 8/ p 323 Balance say $ 1500 to be held by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting subject to interest.

1832 – 6/ p 327 Form of a Deed from Trustees to Overseers in R Island in each Monthly Meeting given.

1832 – 11/

73.2d 5	1835-6/	Expenses paid Wm Barrett care of the house	35,75
	1837-5/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃 ——	30,70
	1838-1/	〃 〃 —— — — ——	34,65
	1841-2/	Care of Mtg house to Salem Mo Mtg renewed	
	1843-5/	Expenses paid Alfred Goss care of the house	45,00
	1844-6/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃 ——	39,58
	1845-	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃	15,00
	1846-6/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃	26,00
	1847-6/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃	22,25
	1849-5/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃	87,74
	12/	〃 〃 〃 〃 〃	75,67

1856
6mo Attention being called to the condition and situation of Friends Mtg house and lot in Boston, John Osborne & others are appointed to view said house and lot and ascertain what our title is, and whence it arises, and make such suggestions in relation thereto as in their judgement may be proper.
1857- 6/13 Committee continued to report at adjournment.
6Mo 16th Committee Stephen A. Chase & Samuel Boyce report.
1857- 8/ Proposition of Committee sanctioned by Yearly Meeting and Committee appointed to ascertain what terms could be obtained for house and lot.
And the Meeting believing that a more minute and definite account to be spread upon our records of the origin of the funds from which said house and lot were procured would be interesting, we appoint Stephen A. Chase and John Osborne to prepare a statement thereof and report, with such other information in regard to the origin of said house and lot as may be interesting as a matter of history (no report found)
1864-2/ Committee appd in 1857 directed to effect a sale of Meeting House and lot.
8mo Committee requested to dispose of said property, either at public or private sale.
1865-6/10 Committee report sale of House and lot at public auction 5 Mo 30th 1865 for 10,275 $
1865-8/ Com report, they have had a deed Executed and the balance due has been paid them, and that after defraying expenses, their remains in their hands the sum of $ 9954,04
Amt sale $10275, Expenses 320,96 Net $ 9.954,04

See Deed No. 16

1873. 2d Mo 5 1865-8/ The Treasurer of Yly Mtg with assistance of Charles R Tucker and others, requested to invest said funds as advisable.
1866-1/ Committee report having purchased $10.000 City of Boston script 6% - Our Treasurer directed to hold said fund in trust in order that it may be appropriated to the purpose of obtaining another house and lot in that City when it shall be deemed advisable.
He is also requested to settle with Salem Mo Mtg for monies advanced in purchasing the script.
The income of the fund the Treasurer is to appropriate for such purposes as this Meeting may hereafter direct.
1866 6/9 Friends house and lot in Boston being disposed of the Committee appointed some years since to have the care &c are released — and Friends wishing to appoint Mtgs. then referred to a committee of Salem Monthly Meeting.

Deed No. 1

Libro 17. Folio 69.
February 2d 1694 A.D and in the 6th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord & Lady William & Mary, King & Queen of Engd. Wm Mumford of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, province of Massachusetts Bay, Stone cutter, in Consideration of 170 pounds current Money of New England, paid by Walter Clarke of Newport, Esq; Edward Shippen, late of Boston, Merchant, now of Phila, John Soames of Boston, Cooper, Edward Wanton of Situate, in the County of Plymouth, Ship wright & William Chamberlain of Hull, Yeoman, doth convey to them & the survivors of them, all that certain piece or parcel of land, situate, lying & being in Boston aforesaid, in a certain place now or lately called Brattles Pasture, being butted & bounded at the front or Easterly end, by the Street called Brattle Street; where it Measureth in breadth twenty feet three inches; on the Westerly end or rear, by the land of Bozrum Allen, where it measureth in twenty one foot; on the Northerly side by the land of said Wm Mumford; and on the southerly side by the land of said Wm Mumford; Measuring in length front to rear one hundred twenty-eight feet more or less; with a new brick house or tenement thereon standing, half of the

173. 2d m 5 north wall whereof stands upon the said Mumford's land; To have and to hold to the said (names repeated) and the survivors of them & their heirs and assigns forever. To the only, sole and proper use for the service & worship of Almighty God, by the society or community of people called Quakers, at all and every time & times forever, hereafter, when and so often as need shall require & to and for none other use, right, or purpose whatsoever.

The Deed was a Warranty Deed

Acknowledged Feb 2d 1694, 5; recorded June 8th 1695 –
Ruth Mumford wife of Wm released her dower.

Deed No 2

Libro 24. Folio 257

Walter Clark – Edward Shippen – Edward Wanton and Wm Chamberlain in consideration of 180 pounds, current money of New England, paid by Thomas Clarke of Boston, convey to him the same parcel bought of Wm Mumford, and since used as a Meeting house for the People called Quakers; Same description, save, bounded on the North by Thomas Clarke, and on the South by Christopher Kilby.

In fee – with Warranty

Dated July 27th 1709 – acknowledged Oct 8. recorded Nov 30th 1709

Deed No 3.

Lib 25. Fol 34

April 28th, in the 8th year of Queen Anne A. D. 1709, Wm Mumford & Ruth his wife of Boston, Stone cutter, in consideration of 80 pounds 10 shillings current money of New England, paid by Samuel Collins of Lynn, Gunsmith, and Thomas Richardson of Boston Merchant, Convey all that piece of pasture land, lately purchased of Elisha Cook Esq. in Boston near Govinors Dock so called, bounded Easterly by Leveretts Lane, leading from King St to the 3d Dock, then measuring in front 35 ft. Southerly by said Mumford's part where it measures in depth 146 feet more or less, Westerly by the land of the widow Phillips, where it measures in the rear 42½ feet; Northerly by John Leverett Esq where it measures in depth 140 ft. In fee – Warranty

Suff – Acknowledged April 28th 1709 Recorded Apl 14th 1710
Before Paul Dudley J. P. Wm Mumford O
Ruth K " " O

1872. 2d m 5

Deed No 4

Libro 27. Folio 170

Wm Mumford conveys to Thomas Richardson late of Boston now of Rhode Island & Samuel Collins of Lynn Blacksmith, in consideration of 50 pounds, current money of New England: Easterly on Leveretts Lane; Southerly on land now or late of Capt. John Wing's heirs; westerly on land formerly of the widow Mrs Mary Phillips and Northerly on the land belonging to the Quakers Meeting house, commonly so called. Measuring on Leveretts Lane 15 ft; in the rear 18 ft, in length 160 or thereabouts. In fee – Warranty – Dower released.

Dated June 29th 1713

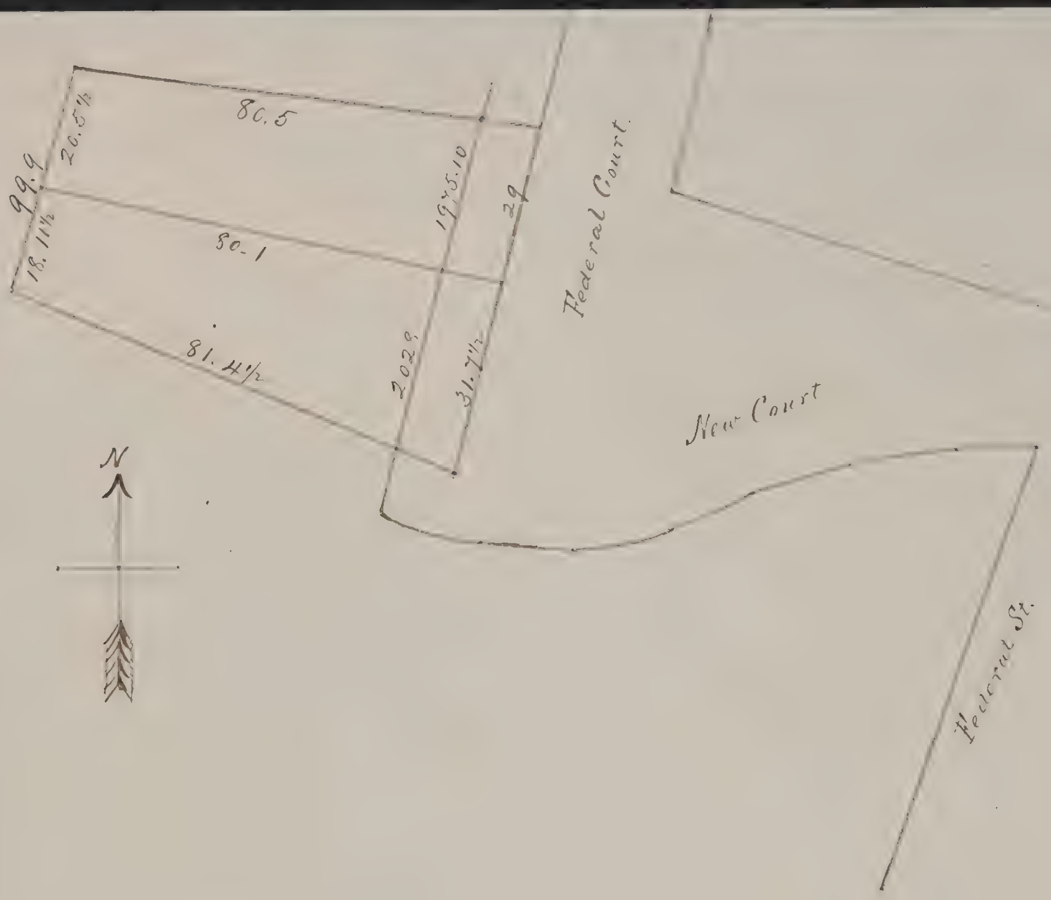
Suff June 29th 1713 acknowledged
Rec July 7th 1713.

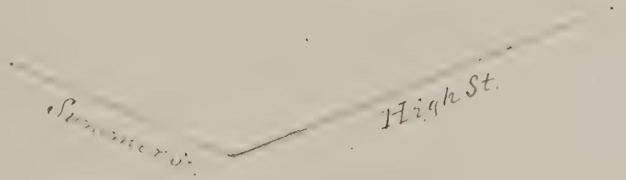
Wm Mumford ○
Ruth her (B) mark Mumford ○

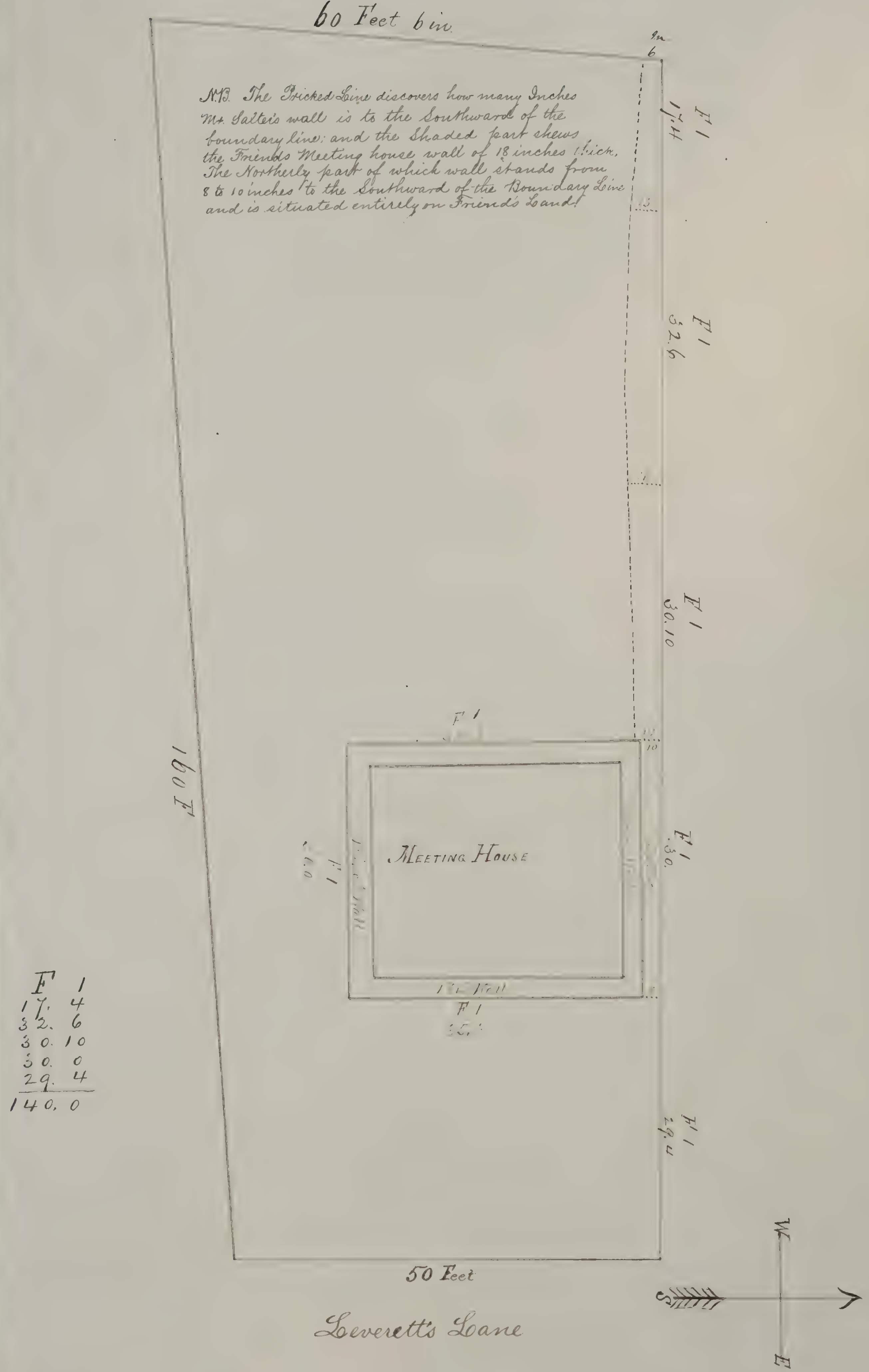
Deed No 5

Libro 32. Folio 1 June 10th 1717

Samuel Collins of Lynn in the county of Essex, Blacksmith and Thomas Richardson of Newport R.I. Merchant, convey to Walter Newbury of Boston, Merchant. Robert Buffum & Samuel Pope blacksmiths and Joshua Buffum husbandman of Salem and Matthew Estes of Scituate, currier, in consideration of 200 pounds – land in Boston near Govenors Dock, bounded Easterly by Leveretts Lane, westerly by land of the heirs or assigns of widow Phillips deceased. Northerly by land now or late of John Leverett Esq in the improvement of Francis – Southerly by land of the heirs of Capt. John Wing deceased. Measuring on the front fifty ft; more or less & in the rear Sixty ft more or less. Together with the Brick Mtg-house lately erected thereon Commonly Called the Quakers Mtg-house; to have and to hold, to them and the survivors and survivor of them, and the heirs and assigns of the survivors and survivor of them forever. The intent and Meaning being, that there shall be no division or partition made, but the same shall be held and used in common. Wherefore the grantors (by name) covenant, promise & grant severally each with the other not to sue out any writ of division or partition. But the same shall be held by them common for life and shall go entire and without division to the survivors and survivor of them and the


80.5
20.5½
99.9
18.11½
80-1
81.4½
1975.10
2029
29
31.7½
Federal Court.
New Court
N
Federal St.


Summer St.
High St.



N.B. The Pricked Line discovers how many Inches Mr Salter's wall is to the Southward of the boundary line; and the Shaded part shews the Friends Meeting house wall of 18 inches thick. The Northerly part of which wall stands from 8 to 10 inches to the Southward of the Boundary Line and is situated entirely on Friend's Land!

1873 22 mo 5th heirs and assigns of the survivors and survivor forever.

The deed was signed by Samuel Collins and Thomas Richardson only. Acknowledged before Samuel Lynde J.P. June 25th 1713 and recorded the same day

No 6

Libro 98. Folio 114

Whereas a dispute arose between the proprietors of a piece of land on Leveretts Lane in Boston, whereon the Quakers Meeting House lately stood, and the proprietors of the lands in the rear, and on Each side thereof, the same lands being made void by fire. In order to settle the bounds of the lands of Each proprietor that join on the lands belonging to the said Meeting House; the selectmen of Boston appoint Samuel Grant, Joseph Bradford and John Leach to go upon the premises, hear the parties and settle the bounds; so that Each May know the same.

Joseph Jackson
Thomas Cushing
Samuel Hues
Benjamin Austin
John Scollay
} Selectmen of Boston

No 7

do on record) Pursuant to the written appointment, we have viewed and run the line round the land whereon the Quaker Mt-House stands & annexed belonging to the same and find in the bounds between them and Deacon Sampson Salter, Said Salter has set his wall on the land belonging to the Friends, in the rear 6 inches, in the front next Leveretts Lane Eight inches and between front and rear, in some places fifteen, in some sixteen, fourteen and in others ten inches, agreeable to the plan hereto annexed

Samuel Grant
Joseph Bradford
John Leach

377
1873. 2d Mo 5

Deed No 8

Libro 98. Folio 115

Sep 26th 1761, in the first year of George 3d King of Great Britain, Samuel Pope of Boston, blacksmith, Joshua Buffum of Salem husbandman and Matthew Estes of Hanover in the county of Plymouth, currier; convey to Ebenezer Pope, taylor & John Phillips Shipwright both of Boston; Joseph Southwick of Danver County of Essex Currier; Jeremiah Hacker Showman & Jona Buffum taylor both of Salem, in consideration of 200 pounds, certain land in Boston (being the burying ground of the Friends called Quakers) bounded on the East on Leveretts Lane 50 ft; Southerly on Hyslop, Wing and Palfrey 160. Westerly on land of Cozneau, Fairfield and Mason, there measuring 60 ft 6 inches & Northerly on land of Sampson Salter, there measuring 140 ft, as is more exactly expressed on the plan herewith recorded; together with the brick Mtg House thereon standing, commonly called the Friends Meeting House and all the buildings and fences thereupon, to have and to hold to them and the survivors and survivor of them, and the heirs and assigns of the survivor. The deed recites that the grantors are the survivors of the grantees in the preceding deed. Is a warranty deed. Similar provision to preserve the estate entire as in the preceding deed.

The deed was duly acknowledged; and was recorded July 20th 1762.

Deed No 9

Libro 204. Folio 16

Ebenezer Pope, tailor, John Phillips, shipwright, both of Boston, the survivors of the grantees (in preceding deed) in consideration of one dollar, paid by Edmund Needham trader and Daniel Needham, tailor, both of Salem and Sampson Silsby, shipwright, Joseph Pope, watchmaker and Griffin Barney, ropemaker all of Boston and Enoch Silsby Merchant of Salem; Quit Claim, Easterly on Congress St formerly called Leveretts Lane 50 ft. Southerly on land formerly of Hyslop, Wing and Palfrey, 160 ft. Westerly on land formerly of Cozneau, Fairfield and Mason 60½ ft. Northerly on land late of Sampson Salter 140 feet, Being the burying ground of Friends called Quakers. (See plan accompanying preceding deed.)

1878. 2mo 5 together with the brick Meeting house thereon, called the Quakers Mtg house, with the other buildings, fences &c, to have and to hold to them and the survivors or survivor of them and the heirs and assigns of the survivors or survivor for the following and upon the following conditions — that the grantees shall never cause or suffer partition to be made of said land, nor suffer nor permit said house to be occupied or used for any other purpose than as a place of meeting for divine worship for the people called Friends after the way and manner the same has heretofore been used, nor suffer nor permit the land or yard to be appropriated or used for any other purpose than a burial ground for said Friends; but shall devote said house and land to the purposes aforesaid forever; and in case the said Edmund, Daniel, Sampson, Joseph Griffin or Enoch the survivors or survivor or the heirs or assigns of the said survivors or survivor of them shall suffer or permit the premises or any part of them (except the cellar under the Meeting House which is to be let and the proceeds applied to keep the house in repair) to be occupied or used for any other purpose than as herein before expressed, then the said land and buildings shall revert to the said Ebenezer Pope and John Phillips or the survivor of them and the heirs & assigns of the survivor of them to be and to remain an estate in fee simple forever.

Dated Dec 25th 1802

Acknowledged Suffolk ss Jan 1st 1803

Recorded Feb 2d 1803.

Ebenezer Pope O

John Phillips O

No. 11

In the Supreme Judicial Court Nov 7th 1824.

A bill of complaint was entered by Estes Newhall Daniel Johnson James Purinton Charles Chase and Isaac Bassett Jr all of Lynn Ichabod Nichols Jr, Stephen Nichols, Solomon Varney and Abijah Chase all of Salem. Daniel Osborn of Danvers Overseers of the Salem Monthly Meeting being a society Embracing all persons of the religious denomination called Quakers who reside within the territorial limits of Boston, Salem and Lynn, and towns in the immediate vicinity; representing that the New England Yearly Mtg had exhisted 150 years; that it was divided into Quarterly

1873. 2 mo 5 Meetings, and each Quarterly into Monthly Meetings, that they own large portions of real estate consisting principally of houses for public worship and being unincorporated before 1823, had it held by trustees subject to the control of the society and on the number of trustees becoming reduced had conveyance made to new ones; that April 28th 1709, and June 29th 1713 the Yearly Meeting caused to be purchased of Wm Mumford, by two deeds, by funds raised by voluntary contribution from their own Members for the use of said society; a lot of land in Boston where the Quakers Mtg House now stands, on Congress St (see description) and being enabled to hold in their own name, had it conveyed by Wm Mumford to two Members of the Society, Samuel Collins and Thomas Richardson. In 1710 the Yearly Meeting caused a Meeting house to be built. June 10th 1717 said R & C by direction of said Yearly Meeting conveyed to Walter Newbury. Robert Buffum, Samuel Pope, Joshua Buffum & Matthew Estes J in fee, as joint tenants. Said grantees agreeing never to divide; that till 1760 said Mtg house was used by the Friends residing within the limits of the said Yearly Meeting and especially within said Monthly Meeting for public worship, and the land adjoining as a burial place for their dead, the cellar being let for their use and they doing repairs at their expense, that in 1760 said Meeting house was burnt, and same year said Yearly Meeting caused another Meeting house to be built with funds raised as aforesaid, it being the same now on premises; that it has been still within 20 years used from time to time by said society for the sole purposes aforesaid; that Sep 6th 1761, Samuel Pope, Joshua Buffum & Matthew Estes, being the survivors, conveyed to Ebenezer Pope John Phillips, Joseph Southwick, Jeremiah Hacker & Jonathan Buffum to hold in the same manner; that Dec 25th 1802 Ebenezer Pope and John Phillips being the survivors, without the consent of said society, conveyed to Edmund Needham Daniel Needham, Sampson Silsby, Joseph Pope, Griffin Barney and Enoch Silsby for a nominal consideration, in which deed said land is acknowledged to be the burying ground of the Friends called Quakers and the Meeting house to be also theirs, upon the trust and for the uses following; to wit that they should permit the house to be used by said society

873. 2mo 5 at all times for a place of Meeting for public worship and the yard as a place of burial, and for no other purposes, and to let cellar and to apply rent for repairs.

And Complainants show that none of the grantors in said deed is living, and the only survivors of the last grantees are Joseph Pope, Griffin Barney of New Bedford and Enoch Silsby of Boston. Joseph Pope out of Commonwealth. Silsby only one within limits of said Monthly Meeting and neither Silsby nor Barney now members of said society of Quakers. For 20 years no established Meeting in Boston on account of small numbers of Members; the building was ruinous, that the trustees have rendered no account of rents and profits, and though requested to convey have refused so to do; that the Complainants have been authorized by law of the Commonwealth Feb 1823 to take and hold Estate, real and personal, within territorial limits of said Monthly Meeting heretofore granted by any persons to said Yearly and Monthly Meetings or to their use; have given notice of their appointment as Overseers of said Monthly Meeting to said Silsby and Barney and requested them to execute and deliver to the complainants a deed and render account. But they decline doing so unless upon various conditions which they have no right to require, therefore they ask that they may make answer and give account; and ask for further relief and for a deed and a writ of subpena directed to Silsby and Barney.

By Benjamin R. Nichols their atty.

An amended bill makes Joseph Pope, recited as being of Philadelphia, a party.

Service was obtained.

A writ of injunction issued against, and was served upon Joseph Pope.

"We therefore in consideration of the premises do strictly enjoin and command you, the said Joseph, Effectually to perform fulfil and comply with and Execute all and Every the Matters and things Specified in said final judgment and decree".

The decree was to account and answer and give a deed of release and for a perpetual injunction restraining from any claim to the premises, or making any sale or disposition of the same, or any part thereof.

Jan 11th 1825.

No. 12

Libro 294. Folio 38.

Enoch Silsby of Boston and Griffin Barney of New Bedford, in consideration of one dollar paid by (same names as Pl'ff. in the bill of complaint) the Overseers of the Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends or Quakers; remise, release and forever Quit-Claim; bounded Easterly on Congress St, about 50 ft. Southerly on land formerly of John Wing about 160 ft; Westerly on land formerly of Mary Phillips about 66½ ft; and Northerly on land formerly of John Leverett about 140 ft; with the Meeting House thereon standing; to their successors and assigns forever.

Dated Oct 16th. Acknowledged by Barney Nov 6th and by Silsby Nov 13th — Recorded Nov 13th 1824.

No. 13

Libro 331. Folio 110.

We Estes Newhall, Daniel Johnson, James Purinton, Charles Chase & Isaac Bassett Jr of Lynn; Abijah Chase, Solomon Varney and Jonª Nichols of Salem and Daniel Osborn of Danvers Overseers of Salem Monthly Meeting in consideration of $ 22000. paid by Edward H. Robbins Jr of Boston — Easterly on Congress St about 50 ft. bounds southerly on John Parker & als 160 ft Westerly on Jonª Mason. Andrew Brimmer & als 66½ ft. Northerly on said Robbins 140 ft — In fee. Covenant that as Overseers in their Corporate Capacity they are in possession of all in the following bounds, beginning at the Northeasterly corner of the Shoe store of John Parker now occupied by Abel Baker, thence running Westerly 129 ft 8 in to land of Andrew Brimmer; thence running Northerly 60 ft 4 in to said Robbins; thence running Easterly by said Robbins 111 ft, to the south east corner of the said Robbins; now occupied by Parker and Codman; thence running southerly 50 ft 7 in. to the North East corner of said Parker's store first mentioned, according to the plan hereto annexed.

…… The three lines in front of said lot as marked on said plan are intended as follows; viz the inner one represents the present course of the fence in front of the premises; the middle or dotted line, the course of the fence as it stood at the time of removal of last brick building

1873. 2 mo 5 a Meeting House; and the outer one represents what we suppose to be the true bounds of Congress St as now laid out.

And we authorize said Robbins in our name, but at his expense, to claim to the outer line and also any other portion to which we have any right or title.

Dated Aug 2d. Acknowledged Aug 4th, Recorded Oct 11th

No 14

Libro 331, Folio 113

The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in consideration of ten Dollars paid them in addition to 22000 dollars paid the Salem Monthly Meeting by Edward H. Robbins of Boston, Quit-claim deed of all their right, title and interest in the whole of the premises. In fee.

In witness whereof we, the subscribers constituting the major part of the committee of said Yearly Meeting, called the Meeting for Sufferings. The whole number of said committee being fifty four have pursuant to Statute of Mass. passed the 28th of second Month (February) 1828, set their hand and seals, this ninth day of the Eighth Month in the year of our Lord 1828.

Moses Brown
Royal Southwick
Nicholas Congdon
Stephen Gould
William Jenkins
Benjamin Freeborn
Obadiah Davis
Francis Taber
Isaac Barrett Jr

William Almy
Rowland Greene
Thomas Anthony
John Osborne
Jonathan Dennis
Jno R Davis
James Tucker
Estes Newhall
Thomas Howland

John Wilbur
Rowland Rathbun
Arnold Congdon
David Buffum
David Buffum Jr
Abraham Sherman Jr
Cornelius Howland
Daniel Johnson

And each a seal

Acknowledged at various dates - Recorded Oct 11th 1828.

No 15

Libro 331. Folio 115. Sep 1st 1828.

Edward H. Robbins Mortgaged back to Wm Almy of Cranston R.I. treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for 14000 Dollars, for one year for the benefit of the Yearly Meeting.

This was assigned to Thomas H. Perkins of Boston.

Libro 344. Folio 52 — Oct 1st 1829.

383
1873. 2mo 5 Libro 331. Folio 115 No. 16

Edward H, Robbins of Boston Physician in consideration of 8000 Dollars paid by the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, does hereby give, grant, sell and convey, unto the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, its successors and assigns, the certain parcels or tracts of land in said Boston, being lots 20 and 21 upon a plan at the end of Book 290, bounded Easterly by a new court now called Milton Place, there measuring 60 ft. 7½ in; Northerly by east by land now or late of Joseph May 85 ft 5 in; Westerly by north by land now or late of Isaac Mc Lellan and others 39 ft 4½ in; Southerly by west in part by land now or late of Henry Hill and in part by said new Court 81 ft 4¼ in; with the privilege and right of using said court and passage way leading to Federal St, in common with other abuttors for the usual purposes of ingress and egress; upon conditions however that ~~shall~~ no houses shall be erected upon the said land within the distance of ten feet from said court, conformably to the dotted line on said plan.

Same premises conveyed to me by Timothy Williams and Lewis Tappan 298 — 289.

In fee; full warranty. Dower released

Suffolk ss Sep 27th 1828. E. H. Robbins Jr
Acknowledged before Benjamin R. Nichols J. P. Louisa Anne

Recorded Oct 11th 1828.

No. 17

Libro 866. Folio 139.

The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, a body corporate by law (Feb 28th 1828) by its treasurer David Buffum, thereto duly authorized; and we the subscribers a Majority of the Committee of said Yearly Meeting called the Meeting for Sufferings (whole number being 32) in consideration of $10.275 paid by Isaac Rich of Boston; convey to him in fee simple, Easterly by Milton Place 60 ft 7½ in; Northerly by land of the grantee 80 ft 5 in; Westerly by land now or late of Isaac Mc Lellan & others 39 ft 4½ in; Southerly by land now or late of Henry Hill and partly by Milton Place 81 ft 4½ in;

Libro 331 — 115. The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England by David Buffum its treasurer seal

873. 2 mo 5

Samuel Boyd Tobey
Gilbert Congdon
Joseph Cartland
Wm A. Robinson
George Bowen
Samuel Boyce

William C. Taber
Charles R. Tucker
Newell Hoxie
David Kelley
Lemuel Gifford
David Buffum

David K Akin
Edward Earle
M. C. Pratt
Stephen A. Chase
Nathan Breed

and 24 seals

Dated July 8th 1865. Several acknowledgments made by the treasurer.
Recorded Oct 20th 1865

To this is attached a certified copy of the minute ~~thus~~ of the Yearly Meeting held at Newport June 6th 1857. attested by Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk; that the treasurer was authorized to convey on request of Committee of Sufferings. And copies from records of the Committee of Sufferings held at Lynn 19th of 8th mo 1857 — of a com app^d at Providence 1st day 7th mo 1865 Committee requested to proceed.

Newport 10th day 6th mo 1865. report sold for $10.275. $1000 cash, the balance on delivery of deed; and the treasurer requested to convey.

David Buffum certified to be treasurer; and that number of Committee is 32. and a Majority has Executed.

Samuel Boyd ~~Tobey~~ Clerk of said Meeting.

In conclusion the Committee would state, that they have used their best endeavors to collect the minutes of the Yearly Meeting, and of the Meeting for Sufferings, relating to the concern of those Meetings in Establishing and supporting the different Meeting Houses in Boston; and also whatever historical notices and deeds they could find on the same subject, which are embodied in the foregoing pages, and they would now ask to be released from further service in the case; which is respectfully submitted.

Newell Hoxie
Wm C. Taber
George Howland Jr
Charles R. Tucker

Providence 2d mo 5th 1873.

1873. 2 Mo. 5

Report of Com to obtain legislative action on acct of Marriage.

The Committee appointed in relation to the change in our Discipline on the subject of Marriage; report, that they have given attention to the subject of their appointment and there does not appear to be any need of legislative action in the case; and the Committee is released.

Com appd on acct of proposition to tax Charitable Institutions.

This Meeting is informed that a petition is likely soon to be presented to the Legislature of Rhode Island proposing to "tax all Charitable Institutions owning over five Acres of land", we accordingly appoint our Friends Joseph Cartland, George Howland Jr, George Bowen and Edward Earle a Committee to represent this Meeting in the case, and Employ such Counsel and advice as they may think needful.

Com appd to provide homes for Friends in attendance of Yly Mtg.

We appoint Stephen Chace, George Bowen, Joseph Cartland and Charles R. Tucker a Committee to take the Necessary care in providing homes for Friends in attendance of the Ensuing Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned.

1873 - 6 Mo - 13

Members present

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6 Mo 13th 1873. Present at this time 34 Members, viz. Peres Peck, Wm C. Taber, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Ellen K. Buffum, Henry T. Wood, Stephen Jones, Edward Earle, Edward W. Howland, Charles T. Coffin Jr, George Bowen, Reuben T. Jones, George Douglass, David K. Akin, Hannah G. Sawyer, Eli Jones, Jane C. Minot, Richard Battey, Jacob K. Purinton, Moses Bailey, Ann B. Earle, Lemuel Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Joseph Cartland, Newell Hoxie, Sybil Jones, Stephen Chace, Timothy B. Hussey, Wm O. Newhall, Samuel H. Colton, Hannah J. Bailey, Moses Sawyer, Susan Taber and Owen Dame. An excuse is offered for the absence of two others which is satisfactory to this Meeting; we have also

riends ws ent from othr Yly Mtgs)

acceptably with us the following Friends from other Yly Meetings viz, James G. Rhoads & J. Wistar Evans from Philª, Wm B. Collins and Jonª Devol from N. York, John Butler and George K. Jenkins from Ohio, Charles F. Coffin and Murray Shipley from Ind, Barnabas C. Hobbs and Amos Doan from Western, Wm Wetherald from Canada and Wm Nicholson & Washington Cadey from Kansas.

Indian Com report

The Com appointed in the 8th Mo last on the very interesting

873-6 mo 13 concern of this Meeting on behalf of the Indian tribes placed under the care of Friends, have made a report as follows, viz, "To the Representative Meeting for New England Yearly Meeting.

Your Committee on Indian affairs report, that they have by their Sub Committee of two acted in conjunction with similar committees from all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent except Canada. We have been represented and taken part in the two Semi-annual Meetings one held in 10th Mo last at Lawrence Kansas and the other just held at this place having five different sittings of about three hours each with all the Yearly Meetings represented as above. The work is an increasingly interesting one and its magnitude becomes more and more apparent. The Associated Executive Committee allots to its various sub committees their duties and these committees report to the semi annual meetings. A faithful record of the work at large is kept and placed before the committee by their valued general agent Dr Wm Nicholson who resides at Lawrence Kansas, where he can visit the agencies once or more each year as occasion may require. Beyond this much labor devolves upon individual members of the associated Committee and some have visited the various tribes every year at their different agencies. There are several schools now held at different localities and some one or more of these has been designated as the particular care of each Yearly Meeting the Quapaws and Peorias are assigned to New England Yly Mtg.

It was concluded to raise two thousand ($2000) Dollars; the proportion for New England is 17 per ct viz three hundred & forty ($340) Dollars.

A full and detailed report would require many pages and as the different Yearly Meetings are represented here by their several committees it is believed that greater good may result from a public Meeting to be held in the Men's Meeting room on 7th day evening at 8 O'clk — at which time and place different Members of the committee together with the general agent will give a fuller statement of the present condition of the Indians in the central Superintendcy. This plan being the desire of the Associated Executive Committee, we ask your action at this time.

Edward W. Howland } For the
Edward Earle } committee

Newport 6 Mo 13th 1873."

which is satisfactory to this Meeting and the suggestion of the Committee that a public Meeting be held in the Men's

1873-6-13 Yearly Meeting room to-morrow Evening at 8 O clk is fully united with and the Meeting is appointed accordingly; and we recommend to the Yearly Meeting that the whole subject of Indian Affairs which has for several years engaged the attention of this Meeting be referred to and adopted by the Yearly Meeting at large, fully believing that great advantage would result from such a course.

The Committee appointed in relation to the expenses of Friends traveling in the Ministry, have made the following report, viz

"To New England Representative Meeting of Friends.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of expenses of Friends traveling in the Ministry among us from other Yearly Meetings report; That it is the duty of the Church to encourage and promote the spread of the gospel; and of all the Members thereof to contribute to this blessed purpose according to their ability. We would suggest that it shall be the duty of the Overseers of Each Mo Meeting to see that all Ministers from other Yearly Meetings duly accredited and engaged in the prosecution of Gospel service within their limits, be provided with suitable company if any is needed, and the Means of transit from place to place. If any Mo Meeting is unable to pay all such expenses they may call upon a standing Committee of their Quarterly Meeting appointed for such special purpose who may reimburse the same or such part thereof as they may think the case requires. If the burden is at any time too great for the Quarterly Meeting they may call upon the Representative Meeting and that Meeting shall consider all such calls and render assistance whenever in the judgment of that Meeting the circumstances justify it.

The Committee recommend also that whenever a Minister is liberated to travel in the Ministry by any of our Monthly Meeting the Overseers of the Meeting shall call upon him and confer with about the arrangements for the journey, and to see that he is provided with suitable company if any is needed and with sufficient Means to complete the journey if the friend needs assistance. If any Mo Meeting, at any time, is unable to bear all such expense it may call upon the Quarterly Mtg Committee, and the Quarterly Meeting, if unable, may call upon the Representative Meeting precisely as provided in the case of Ministers from other Yearly Meetings, in this report.

Newport 6 Mo 13th 1873. On behalf of the com. Edward W. Howland
Charles F. Coffin "

73–6mo 13 Which is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yly Meeting is directed to pay the Treasurer of Salem Monthly Meeting the rent of Wesleyan Hall in the City of Boston Viz Four Hundred & Fifty Dolls for the ensuing year commencing with the 1st of next Month.

Rent of Wes
yan Hall in
oston ordered
be paid.

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting in reference to the petition likely to be presented to the Legislature of R. I. in reference to the taxation of Charitable Institutions; report, that they have given considerable attention to the subject, and believing that usefulness would result from the continuance of a committee, the subject is referred to the next Representative Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to lay the records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Wm O. Newhall
Clerk

1873–6mo 19 At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th Mo 19th 1873.

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following Friends have been appointed to compose a Representative Meeting the ensuing year Viz — 1 Thomas Harkness, 2 Obadiah Chase, 3 Peres Peck, 4 Joseph Cartland, 5 Sarah F. Tobey, 6 Ellen K. Buffum, 7 Charles F. Coffin, 8 Stephen Beede, 9 Wm A. Brown, 10 Owen Dame, 11 Abigail C. Beede, 12 Abigail M. Hanson, 13 George Howland Jr, 14 Edward W. Howland, 15 David K. Akin, 16 David Kelley, 17 Rachel S. Howland, 18 Anna G. Wood, 19 Susan Taber, 20 Wm C. Taber, 21 Charles A. Nichols, 22 Lemuel Jones, 23 Jane C. Minot, 24 Esther Jones, 25 Freeman Andrews, 26 Edward Earle, 27 Samuel H. Colton, 28 Richard Battey, 29 Ann K. Colton, 30 Ann B. Earle, 31 Eli Jones, 32 Charles B. Cates, 33 Thomas B. Nichols, 34 Jonathan Estes, 35 Wm O. Newhall, 36 Sybil Jones, 37 Margaret B. Cates, 38 Jacob K. Purinton, 39 Timothy B. Hussey, 40 Anna M. Hussey, 41 Hannah G. Sawyer, 42 Moses Bailey, 43 Reuben T. Jones, 44 Hannah J. Bailey, 45 Thomas B. Buffum, 46 Charles R. Tucker, 47 Moses Sawyer, 48 Stephen Chase, 49 Phebe P. Jones, 50 George Bowen, 51 Newell Hoxie, 52 Stephen Jones and 53 Gulielma W. Howland, of whom the following 41 members are present — Viz —

1873-6 Mo 19 Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Cartland,
Names of Stephen Beede, Wm A. Brown, Owen Dame Abigail C. Beede,
Members Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, David
present K. Akin, David Kelley, Anna G. Wood, Susan Taber, Wm C. Taber,
Charles A. Nichols, Lemuel Jones, Jane C. Minot; Esther Jones, Freeman Andrews, Edward Earle, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann K. Colton, Ann B. Earle, Eli Jones, Jonathan Estes, Wm O. Newhall, Jacob K. Purinton, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Charles R. Tucker, Moses Sawyer, Stephen Chase, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones and Gulielma W. Howland

Clerk App.d Wm O. Newhall is appointed Clerk for the ensuing year.

Stated Mtgs It is concluded that our stated Meetings the coming year be held as follows viz— At Lynn on Fourth day before the Third Fifth day in the eighth Mo at 3 O.clk P.M.

At Providence on Fourth day before the First Fifth day in the Second Month 1874 at 3 O.clk P.M.

At Newport on Sixth Day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6 O,clk P.M.

Com app. to Cause the Mtg House to be fitted with Gas Fixtures &c We appoint our Friends George Bowen and Edward W. Howland a committee to cause our Yearly Meeting House to be suitably fitted with Gas Fixtures and to make such alterations in seating our Womens Meeting room as in their judgment they may think proper.

Then adjourned.

1873-8 mo 20 At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn 8th Mo 20th 1873

Present 36 Members Viz, Thomas Harkness, Obadiah
Names of Chase, Perez Peck, Joseph Cartland, Sarah F. Tobey,
Members Charles F. Coffin, Stephen Beede, Owen Dame, Abigail
present M. Hanson, Edward W. Howland, David K. Akin, David Kelley, Anna G. Wood, Susan Taber, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Esther Jones, Edward Earle, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann K. Colton, Eli Jones, Jonathan Estes, Wm O. Newhall, Sybil Jones, Jacob K. Purinton, Timothy B. Hussey Moses Bailey, Thomas B. Buffum, Charles R. Tucker

873-8mo 20

Moses Sawyer, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie and Gulielma W. Howland for the absence of several others satisfactory reasons were assigned.

There being no business to claim our attention the Meeting then adjourned.

1874-2 Mo 4th

At a Representative Meeting held at Providence 2nd Mo 4th 1874

names of members present

Present 24 members viz — Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Peres Peck, Joseph Cartland, Sarah F. Tobey, Ellen K. Buffum George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, David K. Akin, Anna G. Wood, Wm C. Taber, Charles F. Coffin, Edward Earle, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann K. Colton, Ann B. Earle, Eli Jones, Wm O. Newhall, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Thomas B. Buffum, Charles K. Tucker and George Bowen for the absence of several others sufficient reasons were assigned.

Request from New Bedford Mo Mtg

The following request is recd at this time viz — "To the Representative Meeting of New England.

New Bedford Monthly Meeting in the management of a trust fund desires the advice of the Representative Meeting.

On behalf of the Overseers residing in New Bedford.

Charles R Tucker

New Bedford 2nd Mo 2nd 1874"

Com appd on request of New Bedfd Mo Mtg

Whereupon we appoint our friends Charles F. Coffin, Samuel H. Colton, George Bowen and Richard Battey a committee to render such advice to all the parties in interest as in their judgment may seem needful.

Com to provide homes for Friends at our next Yly Mtg

We appoint Thomas B. Buffum George Bowen, Charles R. Tucker and George Howland Jr a committee to take the necessary care in providing homes for Friends in attendance of the ensuing Yearly Meeting.

Eli Jones to be furnished with his report presented in 1852

The Clerk of this Meeting is authorized to furnish our friend Eli Jones with the report presented to the Meeting for Sufferings in

1874-2nd mo 4th the year 1852, embracing an account of his own and Sybil Jones's visit to Africa in the year 1851 which is now on file among the papers belonging to this Meeting, the same to be returned at a suitable time.

Then adjourned.

---

6 Mo 12th

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 12th 1874

Present at this time 42 Members viz Thomas Harkness, Obadiah Chase, Peree Peck, Joseph Cartland, Sarah T. Tobey, Ellen K. Buffum, Stephen Beede, Wm A. Brown, Owen Dame, Abigail C. Beede, Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr, Edward W. Howland, David K. Akin, David Kelley, Anna G. Wood, Susan Taber, Wm C. Taber, Charles A. Nichols, Lemuel Jones, Jane C. Minot, Edward Earle, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Eli Jones, Charles B. Cates, Thomas B. Nichols, Jonathan Estes, Wm O. Newhall, Margaret B. Cates, Jacob K. Purinton, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, Hannah G. Sawyer, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Charles R. Tucker, Moses Sawyer, Stephen Chace, Phebe P. Jones, George Howen, Newell Hoxie and Stephen Jones.

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Alden Sampson and Alexander M. Purdy of New York Yearly Meeting, Yardley Warner of Phila, Allen Jay and Wm A. Symes of North Carolina, Charles S. Hubbard, John P. Pennington and Alida Clark of Ind, Rebecca Clawson and Elizabeth H. Burgess of Western and Ellwood Ozbun of Iowa.

A Memorial concerning our late beloved Friend Elizabeth Gove prepared by Seabrook Mo Mtg and approved by Salem Quarterly Mtg has been read and approved and the Clerk is directed to lay it before the Yearly Mtg. The reading of this memorial has brought the memory of our dear Friend very sweetly to our remembrance.

We have recd a communication from Windham Mo Mtg which has been read and is referred to the next Representative Mtg.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the Treasurer of Wesleyan Hall in the City of Boston the rent of said Hall viz Four hundred & Fifty Dollars. The Hall to be used by Friends in Boston and its vicinity, to hold their Mtgs in the coming year.

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting. Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yly Mtg.

William O. Newhall Clerk

874-6th Mo 18th

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 18th 1874

ames of mem-bers- The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following named Friends have been appointed to compose a Representative meeting the coming year, Viz; Thomas Harkness, Thomas B, Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Sarah F, Tobey, Wm O, Newhall, Wm A. Brown, Mahaleth G. Jones, Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C, Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Mary C, Hawkes, Samuel H, Colton, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Abby S, Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Hannah T. Jenkins; Sarah W. Goddard, Jacob K. Purinton, Albert C, Buffum, Anna M. Hussey, Huldah C, Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T, Jones, Hannah J, Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Edward W. Howland, Joseph Cartland Wm C, Taber, Perez Peck, Edward Earle, David K, Akin, Charles F. Coffin, George Richardson, Thomas Folsom, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones, Lemuel Jones, Henry T, Wood, Charles Taber, George Bowen and Moses Sawyer of whom

Names of Members prest the following 38 members are present, viz; Thomas Harkness, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O, Newhall, Wm A. Brown, Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C, Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Mary C, Hawkes, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Abby S, Battey, Thomas B. Nichols; Eli Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Huldah C. Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Peace P. Jones, Edward W. Howland, Joseph Cartland, Wm C. Taber; Perez Peck, Edward Earle, David K, Akin, George Richardson, Thomas Folsom, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones, Lemuel Jones, Henry T. Wood, Charles Taber and George Bowen.

Clerk appd Wm O. Newhall is appointed Clerk the present year.

Stated Mtgs It is concluded that our stated Meetings the coming year be held as follows, viz; At Lynn on Sixth Day before the Third Fifth-day in the Eighth Month at 3, O'clk in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth-day before the First Fifth-day in the Second Month at 3, O'clk in the afternoon.

At Portland on Sixth-day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6, O'clk in the afternoon.

Com appd on yly Mtg going to Portland The Yearly Meeting having concluded to hold its sessions next year at Portland in the State of Maine; we appoint our Friends Edward W. Howland, Thomas Harkness, Moses

1874. 6 Mo 18th
Com on Yly Mtg going to Portland

Bailey, Charles R. Tucker, George Douglas and Eli Jones a committee to examine the titles by which the Yearly Meeting holds its property to see if such change of place in holding the Yearly Meeting will in any way invalidate its title to said property; and report to this Meeting in the Eighth month next.

Com to advise Windham Mo. Mtg

The request from Windham Monthly Meeting referred from our last Representative Meeting to this Meeting, having again been read, we appoint our Friends Edward W. Howland, Thomas Harkness Moses Bailey, Charles R. Tucker, George Douglas and Eli Jones a committee to take the subject into consideration and render such advice and assistance to that Monthly Meeting as in their judgment may appear needful.

Then adjourned.

---

8 Mo 14th.

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn 8th Mo. 14th 1874.

Members present

Present 40 members, viz; Thomas Harkness, Thomas B. Buffum, Wm O. Newhall, Wm A. Brown, Mahaleth G. Jones, Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus T. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Samuel H. Colton Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Moses Bailey Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Edward W. Howland Joseph Cartland, Wm C. Taber, Perez Peck, Edward Earle, David K. Akin, Charles T. Coffin, George Richardson, Thomas Tolson Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones, Lemuel Jones, Henry T. Wood, Charles Taber and Moses Sawyer; for the absence of four of our members sufficient reasons were assigned.

Strangers present

We have with us at this time the acceptable company of our Friends Robert L. and Ruth S. Murray and Thomas W. Ladd of New York Yearly Meeting, David and Hannah B. Tatum and Eli and Abarilla Cowghill of Ohio Yearly Meeting and Josiah Dillon of Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Com on Yly Mtg going to Portland Continued

The committee appointed in reference to the change of place in holding the sessions of our next Yearly Meeting, not being prepared to report at this time, they are continued. And they are authorized to procure such legal advice, and take such action as the case may seem to require.

1874. 8 Mo 14th A document from Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has been laid before this Meeting and read at this time; Whereupon we appoint our Friends

Com appd to examine document from Smithfd Qr Mtg — Wm C. Taber, Henry T. Wood, Hannah J. Bailey, Newell Hoxie and Susan Taber a committee to examine the same and make such alterations and corrections as in their judgment may seem best and return the document to Smithfield Quarterly Meeting and that Meeting be left at liberty to publish and circulate the same.

Then adjourned.

---

12 Mo 1st Special Mtg

At a Special Representative Meeting held at
Lynn 12th Mo 1st 1874

Members present — Present at this time 30 members, viz. Thomas Harkness, Thomas B. Buffum, Wm O. Newhall, Wm A. Brown, Mahaleth G. Jones, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus T. Cox, Samuel H. Colton, Ann B. Earle, Eli Jones, Jacob K Purinton, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Edward W. Howland, Joseph Cartland, Wm C. Taber, Percy Peck, Edward Earle, David K. Akin, Charles F. Coffin, George Richardson, Thomas Folsom, Newell Hoxie, Henry T. Wood, George Bowen and Moses Sawyer, for the absence of 6 others sufficient reasons were assigned.

Call for the Mtg — The Clerk informs that this Meeting has been called pursuant to the following notice —

"To Wm O. Newhall Clerk

Wilt thou please call a Special Representative Meeting to be held at Friends Meeting House in Lynn 12th Mo 1st at 11 O,clk A. M.

Boston 11th Mo 17th 1874

Thomas Harkness
Eli Jones
Edward W. Howland
Moses Bailey
Charles R. Tucker
George Douglass"

Report of Committee on removal of Yly Mtg — The Committee appointed in the 6th Month last in consequence of the Yearly Meeting having decided to hold its sessions next year in Portland in the state of Maine, have made the following report, viz

To the Representative Meeting

Your Committee appointed upon the

1874
12 mo 1
Report continued

subject of holding the Yearly Meeting at Portland, have given their attention to the appointment; and we are united in submitting for your consideration, the legal opinions which w have obtained, viz- Baker and Baker of Maine and George H Browne of Providence, which come to us via Augustine Jones in the main points of which he unites. Which is respectfully submitted —

Boston 11th Mo 17th 1874

Edward W. Howland
Thomas Harkness
Moses Bailey
Charles R. Tucker
George Douglas
Eli Jones "

Opinion of Baker & Baker

Opinion of Baker and Baker of Maine

We have examined the questions submitted to us by the Representative Meeting of the New England of Friends and are of opinion —

I That a corporation chartered and organized under the laws of Rhode Island cannot hold legal Meetings in Maine for the transaction of business affecting the pecuniary interests of the Corporation; but all financial action of such Maine meetings would be void, because Corporate meetings can be held only in the State where the Corporation is chartered.

II That in order to make Meetings in Maine legal and effectual, and give them power to bind the Rhode Island Corporation and its funds, it would be necessary

I- To procure from the Maine Legislature at its next session on petition of the Representative Meeting, a charter in the exact form of the Rhode Island charter with a clause authorising the consolidation of the two corporations.

II- To procure in like manner from the Rhode Island Legislature at its next session an act authorising consolidation with the Maine Corporation.

III It will be necessary for the Representative Mtg assembling and acting in Rhode Island for and in behalf of the Rhode Island Corporation and unde

1874
12 mo 1
Baker & Baker Continued.

the authority already vested in them, to accept the Rhode Island act, and vote to consolidate with the Maine Corporation. This may be done any time after the Maine charter has been obtained, even before they have organised under it.

IIII At the Yearly Meeting in Portland 1875 the charter of Maine should be accepted by the Corporators named therein, and an organisation effected identical with that under the Rhode Island Charter and a vote be passed to consolidate the two corporations.

V The Yearly Meeting for 1876 should be held in Rhode Island and at that Meeting a vote should be passed to ratify and adopt fully the action of the Representative Mtg in accepting the Rhode Island act which authorised the consolidation of the two corporations, and in voting so to consolidate. This will make good any possible want of authority in the action of the Representative Mtg from the date thereof. This action in our opinion, will make all the proceedings legal, and the Yearly Meetings can henceforth be legally held in Rhode Island and Maine alternately, if desired; and we are of the opinion that the omission to hold a Yearly Meeting in Rhode Island in 1875 will not affect the existence, rights or property of the present Corporation.

Baker and Baker."

Augusta Oct 31st 1874

Opinion of George H. Browne

Opinion of George H. Browne of Providence.

The Charter and purpose of the Meeting which the Corporation Chartered by the State of Rhode Island and known as the "Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England" have voted to hold in Maine next year leave little room for a doubt of the invalidity of any action that may then and there be taken on secular business matters.

The proposed Meeting is to be the regular annual Meeting for the Election of Officers and agents in whom the "artificial intangible existence" known as a Corporation, is, so to speak, incarnated and through it shall act, and at that Meeting the Corporators and not the agents, of the Corporation are to act.

Now although there are many acts, such as making

1875 12 mo 1st Opinion of J.H. Browne continued

contracts through its agents, which a Corporation may, by the *comity existing and practiced* between the different States, do outside of the jurisdictional creating it, the election of Officers and indeed everything implying action by the Corporators, are not among the number.

"A Corporation can have no legal existence out of the boundaries of the Sovereignty by which it is created. It must dwell in the place of its creation and cannot Migrate"

Bank of Augusta Vs Earle 13 Peters (U.S.) 277.

Certainly if the Corporators Migrate to another Sovereignty where it has no legal existence, their doings there by which alone its legal existence is perpetuated can hardly have any binding force under the laws as they now exist.

And if there were any doubt on this point, the well considered opinion of the court of last resort of the Sovereignty where it is proposed to hold this Meeting (given upon a state of facts analagous to those existing in this Matter) would seem to settle the question beyond dispute. The body whose duty it is to interpret and declare the laws of Maine, (through their very able Chief Justice) have decided, that a Corporation created by their own law-making power, cannot lawfully hold Corporate Meetings outside the State, and it would seem to follow that no Comity would allow a foreign corporation to do in Maine, what that State denies to a corporation of its own creation.

Miller versus Ewer 27 Me 509.

It is true there are dicta of Courts and opinions of law writers to the contrary. 6 Conn 428. McCall versus the Byram Manfg Co – Angell and Ames on Corporations 458 6 Fairfield.

And it Might even be inferred from the language of the court in 13 Peters 277 that by the Comity of States such an act not being forbidden, could be legally done in a foreign jurisdiction. But there is no case where that exact question has been so decided and all the principles governing such cases are against that construction.

1874
12 mo 1st
G. H. Brown's
pinion
ontinued

There is an ably argued, well reasoned and exhaustive case in 5 Bush (Ky) Reports on this subject.

I perceive no escape from the conclusion at which you and the Messrs have arrived viz that the Corporation Chartered by the General Assembly of Rhode Island known as the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, cannot hold a Corporate Meeting for the election of Officers and transaction of secular business in Maine, and have their doings valid.

But (as I understand the facts) that Corporation has voted that its next annual Meeting for the Election of Officers &c shall be holden in Maine, and has adjourned and there will be no opportunity before that Meeting to rescind that vote. And the question is what can be done or omitted to make the action and doings of that proposed Meeting valid.

In the first place it seems to me that all difficulties arising from that vote, can be obviated by the Corporators refraining from doing at that Meeting any secular business whatever, and this can be done without any difficulty, unless the time during which the present Officers should hold their office was limited, or fixed at the time of their election. And by so acting as there is nothing in their Charter fixing the time or place of Meetings or limiting the term of office, the Officers by the general principles governing Corporations, they will still remain Officers of the Corporation and their acts will be legal and binding.

The Corporators might indicate their wishes by advisory votes or resolutions, which would undoubtedly have in that society and with its Officers the force of law. It is well settled that a failure to elect officers at the usual Meeting for that purpose does not dissolve the Corporation and that the Officers where there is no restriction in the Charter hold over.

General Statutes of R. I. 291.
Angell and Ames on Corporations 108
2 Kents Commentaries 238.

Or it seems to me another and perhaps preferable course (because it would be permanent and apply

1874
12 Mo 1st
G. H. Browne
Opinion
Continued

to all future Meetings) would be to obtain from the Legislature of Maine an act authorising "the Corporation Chartered by the General Assembly of R. I. at its October session A. D. 1823 by the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends in New England" to hold Corporate Meetings for the Election of Officers and the transaction of any other business in Maine, with the same effect as if holden in R. I.

The Charter of that Corporation does not forbid such action on its part, but on the contrary seems to imply that Meetings may be so held. And to remove all doubt on this point, the General Assembly of R. I. might also pass an act, authorizing such action by the Corporation.

I have not had time to fully and critically examine and consider this course in all its bearings, but I do not perceive any illegality in or objection to such a course, on the contrary such action seems eminently proper as many of the Members of that body reside in Maine, and many of the recipients of its Charity may be and probably are there.

I cannot in view of the decision of Judge Story in Farnum versus the Blackstone Canal Co. 1st Sumner 47. and of the bequests recited in the Charter, see how a Corporation created by the Legislature of Maine, even if consolidated with that in R. I. could ever legally assume or exercise any power in the election of Officers or in the disposition of the bequests to and funds of the latter. Would they not be obliged to act separately? Which would merge in the other? The bequests were to the Corporation created by the General Assembly of R. I. and that body cannot transfer to a new body the Trusts arising under those gifts and created by the donors.

Besides this it is well to consider what the effect of the transfer of the property belonging to the old Corporation to a new and foreign one might have on the question of taxation of estate

1874
12 mo 1
G. H. Browne's Opinion Continued

now free.

For these reasons and because the way I propose is much shorter if feasible, I would submit as proper for consideration whether that course is not preferable.

Neither can I agree with the opinion of the Messrs Baker that the R. I. Corporation at its Meeting in 1876 (if any should be holden then) could validate the action of the Representative Meeting accepting a new Charter from Maine. It seems to me that clearly, the Representative Meeting have no authority whatever to accept such a Charter or any amendment of their own Charter. It is beyond their powers. Their act is simply void. Now it is well settled, a void act, cannot be made valid or effectual, by ratification. A voidable one may but not a void one.

George H. Browne"

Appointment of a Com

which have been read in this Meeting and we appoint our Friends Eli Jones, Thomas B. Buffum, Joseph Cartland, Moses Baily, Reuben T. Jones, Augustus T. Cox, Edward W. Howland, George Douglas, Charles R. Tucker, Edward Earle and Wm C. Taber a Committee to procure from the Legislatures of Rhode Island and Maine the necessary legal Enactments to permit the annual sessions of our Yearly Meeting to be holden in Either State and report to this Meeting in the 2nd Mo next.

Minute of Vassalboro Qtr Mtg

The following Minute from Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting has been received Viz — "To Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting in 9th Mo 1874 — Your Committee to advise and assist China Mo Mtg in regard to extending care to our members in the Provinces of Nova Scotia & N. Brunswick have conferred with the Committee of that Mo Meeting. Subsequently one of our members, accompanying a Friend in the Ministry from Iowa Y Meeting, visited most of the families and members resident in those Provinces since which, the information obtained has been communicated to the Committee of China Mo Mtg. The travelling expenses arising from this journey amounts to ninety-seven 30/100 Dollars —

Minute of Vassalboro Qtr Mtg Concluded and accepted

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Ebenezer Frye
Sarah W. Goddard"

Which report was accepted. And in relation to the sum of Ninety-Seven 30/100 Dolls expended in prosecution of this visit it was felt to be a burden that should be borne by Friends at large —

The Clerk was directed to forward a copy of this Minute to the Representative Meeting, that they may direct repayment of the same, if they deem it right

From the Minutes of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting held 9th Mo 1874

Eli Jones Clerk"

The Treasurer of the Yly Mtg directed to pay the above bill.

Which has been read, and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the Treasurer of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting the above sum of Ninety-Seven 30/100 Dolls.

Minute of this Mtg on acct of Kansas Sufferers

The attention of this Meeting being called to an "Appeal for aid", issued by the Executive Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of Kansas Yearly Meeting, in behalf of the destitute and suffering within the limits of that Yearly Meeting, in consequence of the failure and destruction of their crops, it was concluded that a Minute should be sent down to our Monthly Mtgs, recommending that contributions of Money or clothing be made in such manner as they may think proper; and in view of their pressing needs it is hoped that early attention will be given to the subject.

Then adjourned.

1875
2 Mo 3rd

At a Representative Meeting held at Providence 2nd Mo 3rd 1875

Members present

Present at this time 29 members Viz — Thomas Harkness, Thomas B. Buffum, Sarah F. Tobey, Wm O. Newhall, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan Taber, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Abby S. Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Edward W. Howland, Joseph Cartland, Wm C. Taber,

1875
2 Mo 3d Perce Peck, Edward Earle, David K. Akin, Charles F. Coffin, George Richardson, Thomas Folsom, Newell Hoxie, Henry T. Wood and George Bowen, for the absence of Four of our members sufficient reasons were assigned.

Com on acct of removal of Yly Mtg continued

The committee appointed at the Special Meeting in the 12th Mo last, report attention having been paid to the subject, but are not prepared to report further at this time, they are therefore continued and desired to report at our next Meeting.

Minute of this Mtg sent to Qtr & Mo Mtgs notifying them that the Yly Mtg will be held at Newport

This Meeting finding that there has not been sufficient time to effect the necessary legislative action to enable the Yearly Meeting to hold its sessions this year at Portland have concluded to notify the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings by a Minute of this Meeting, informing them that our next Yearly Meeting will be held at the usual time at Newport.

Com appd to provide homes for Friends at Yly Mtg time

We appoint George Bowen, Thomas B. Buffum, Charles R. Tucker and George Howland Jr, a Committee to take the necessary care of providing homes for Friends in attendance of the ensuing Yearly Meeting.

This Mtg concludes to Meet next time at Newport

This Meeting reconsiders the Conclusion arrived at in the 6th Mo last, to hold a Stated Meeting at Portland in the 6th Mo next and now concludes that that Meeting be held at Newport on Sixth-day before the Commencement of the Yearly Meeting at 6, O'clk P.M. and the Clerk is directed to notify the Members of this Meeting accordingly

Then adjourned.

1875
6th Mo 11th

Opening Minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 11th 1875

Members present

Present at this time 37 Members, Viz Thomas Harkness, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall, Mahaleth G. Jones. Abigail M. Hanson Charles R. Tucker, Susan Taber, George Douglass, Augustus F. Cox, A. Jane Cox, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle,

1875
6 mo 11th
Names of members present

Abby A. Bailey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Jacob K. Purinton, Albert O. Buffum, Caroline A. Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Edward W. Howland, Joseph Cartland, Wm C. Taber, Perez Peck, Edward Earle, David K. Akin, Charles T. Coffin, George Richardson, Thomas Folsom, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones, Lemuel Jones, George Bowen and Moses Sawyer.

Strangers present.

We have also with us at this time Joseph Hobson and Ellwood Ratcliff of Ohio Yly Mtg - Cornelius Douglas and John P. Pennington from Ind. John Newlin from Western and Seneca Doan from Canada

Report of com on Removal of

The Committee appointed at the special Meeting held in the 12th Mo last, have made the following report - viz

"Newport 6th Mo 1st 1875

The Committee to whom was referred the care of procuring legislation in Rhode Island and Maine to authorize and enable the Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of property for charitable and benevolent purposes, Report that the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation did 3d Mo 11th 1875 pass the following amendatory Enactment.

To Wit - "An Act in ammendment of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, to receive, hold, manage, appropriate and dispose of property for charitable and benevolent and other purposes".

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

Section I. The Corporation known as the Yearly Meeting of Friends in New England, is hereby authorized to hold annual Meetings, not oftener than once in every two years hereafter, in the State of Maine, for such purposes as the like Meetings have heretofore been held in this State, whenever said corporation shall, by the law of Maine, be permitted and authorized to hold such Meetings for such purposes in that State and the election of officers of said corporation and all votes passed and all business transacted by said corporation at the Meetings that may be so holden in Maine, shall be as valid, binding and effectual to all intents and purposes as though said corporate Meetings had been holden in this State."

and further - that the legislature of the State of Maine did on the seventeenth day of second Month 1875, pass the following act -

1875
6 mo 11th

To Wit — "State of Maine

In the Year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Five
An Act to incorporate the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled as follows:

Section I Eli Jones, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Edward W. Howland, Wm C. Taber, and Charles R. Tucker, their associates and successors, being admitted and approved as Members of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, according to their usual order and discipline, are hereby incorporated by the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, for Charitable and benevolent purposes, with all the powers, privileges and immunities of corporations and subject to all the duties and liabilities of such corporations under the general statutes of the State.

Section II Said Corporation may hold, for the purposes aforesaid, real and personal estate, by purchase, gift, devise or otherwise, to such an amount that the net income thereof shall not in any one year exceed thirty thousand dollars, and the Management of all said property may be committed by said corporation to a Clerk or Secretary, treasurer, trustees, committee or other officers or agents thereof.

Section III This Corporation, at any legal Meeting thereof after its organization, is hereby fully authorized and empowered by a major vote of its Members present at such Meeting, to consolidate with the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, incorporated by the legislature of Rhode Island, and now in operation in that state, so as to constitute but one corporation, as nearly as may be, with full authority to hold corporate Meetings in Rhode Island, as well as in this State, and to transact any corporate business in said state, so as to be binding upon this corporation, and all persons interested therein; and this corporation shall hold all its property subject to the same purposes and trusts as are or may be specified in the said Rhode Island charter, provided, that real and personal estate held by said corporation shall not be exempt from taxation.

Section IV The Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England a corporation established by the legislature of Rhode Island

1875
6 mo 11th

and now in operation in that State, is hereby authorized to hold its annual Meetings in the State of Maine from time to time as they shall see fit, and transact therein any business that may come before them, the same as if such Meetings were held in the State of Rhode Island.

Section V This act shall take effect when approved.

In House of Representatives 1875

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted

[illegible]

Speaker

[illegible]

and that the two seem to be sufficient to authorize and enable New England Yearly Meeting of Friends to carry out all that was contemplated in its conclusion last year to hold the Yearly Meeting a part of the time at Portland Maine. They therefore recommend that the said enactment be referred to the Yearly Meeting for its action.

To the Representative Meeting to be held at Newport
6th Mo 10th 1875

Eli Jones
Edward Earle } In the Committee

which this Meeting concludes to lay before the Yearly Meeting.

The following communication is received from China Monthly Meeting, Viz.

"To the Representative Meeting

The Committee to correspond with Friends in the Provinces, presented the following report, which was accepted and the suggestion therein contained was approved. Eli Jones and Stephen Jones were appointed to present a statement of their case to the Representative Meeting; and the Clerk was directed to furnish them with a copy of the Report and of this minute.

From the Minutes of China Monthly Meeting of Friends held 5 Mo 19th 1875

Caleb Jones Clerk

Report

To China Monthly Meeting 5th Month 1875

Your Committee to correspond with Friends in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, report, that they have been

1875
6 Mo 11th visited during the past year by a Friend in the ministry accompanied by a member of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, by whom we learn that some of our members there have united with other religious bodies, and that others stand much in need of Christian care and oversight. We would suggest to the Monthly Meeting the propriety of forwarding a statement of their case to the Representative Meeting and of asking its advice and aid in the matter.

Which we submit—
For the Committee
Eli Jones

which we conclude to refer to the Yearly Meeting for its consideration.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall in the City of Boston the Sum of Four Hundred and Fifty Dollars, for the rent of said Hall for the Friends residing in Boston and its vicinity to hold their Meetings in.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay the bills incurred, and approved, by the Committee appointed to obtain the necessary legislation to enable the Yearly Meeting to hold its sessions at Portland

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned
Wm O. Newhall
Clerk

1875-6 Mo 18

Opening minute At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 18th 1875

Names of Members The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following named Friends have been appointed to compose the Representative Meeting the ensuing year.
Viz Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, William O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus T. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A.

1875-6 Mo 18

names of members Continued

Douglas, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Mary C. Jones Sarah W. Goddard, Jacob K. Purinton, Samuel Buffum Elmira B. Buffum, Lydia E. Jenkins, Moses Bailey Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Perez Peck, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, William C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel K. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Folsom and Stephen Jones of whom the following Thirty Members are present viz

names of members present

Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall Charles F. Coffin, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglas, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann K. Colton, Eli Jones, Jacob K. Purinton, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey Perez Peck, Edward W. Howland, Wm C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Ebenezer Frye, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones and Stephen Jones.

Clerk app:

William O. Newhall is appointed Clerk for the ensuing year

Time fixed for holding Stated Mtgs

It was concluded that the regular Meetings for the year ensuing be held as follows—

Viz At Lynn on Sixth day before the Third Fifth day in the Eighth Month at 3. O'clk in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth day before the First Fifth day in the Second Month, at 3, O'clk in the afternoon.

At Newport on Sixth day before the commencement of the Yearly Meeting, at 6, O'clk in the afternoon.

Com app^d to aid Eli Jones

We appoint our Friends Edward W. Howland, George Bowen, Moses Bailey, Benjamin Buffum and Charles F. Coffin a Committee to render our Friend Eli Jones such aid and assistance as he may need in the prosecution of his proposed religious visit to foreign lands, and said committee are at liberty to draw on the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for such sums of Money as may be needed to defray his expenses.

Then adjourned

875-8 Mo 13th
Opening Minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn
8th Mo 13th 1875.

Names of
Members present

Present 30 members viz Thomas Harkness, George Bowen Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, William O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr, George Douglas, Augustus G. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglas, Samuel H. Colton, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Thomas B. Nichols, Jacob K. Purinton, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Samuel R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Folsom and Stephen Jones for the absence of 16 of our number sufficient reasons were assigned.

John Carey
and
Levi Ratcliff
present

We have also with us at this time the acceptable company of our Friends John Carey and Levi Ratcliff of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

The London
General
Epistle
rec'd & read
& Com app'd
to publish

The London General Printed Epistle for this year, has been received at this time and read to our satisfaction and comfort, and in order that its encouraging and instructive counsel may be transmitted to the members of this Yearly Meeting, we appoint our Friends Samuel H. Colton and Augustine Jones a committee to cause Three Thousand copies to be printed and forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings in their usual proportions; and they are at liberty to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense thereof.

Petition to
Congress
on the
subject of
Peace

The Petition on the subject of Peace, prepared by the Yearly Meeting and sent down to the several Monthly Meetings for signatures, having been signed by about Twenty Five Hundred of our Members and forwarded by direction of the Yearly Meeting to this Meeting, we refe the subject to our Friends Augustine Jones, Ann K. Colton and Gertrude W. Cartland in connection with the Clerk of this Meeting, to make such arrangement of the signatures, and such disposition of the petition as shall best carry into effect the concern of the Yearly Meeting upon this very important concern.

1875-8mo13

Action in reference to Friends in the British Provinces

Our attention being called to the following Minute of our last Yearly Meeting Viz "The State of our Members in the British Provinces being brought to our Notice through a communication from China Monthly Meeting to the Representative Meeting, that body is requested to extend a Christian care to those dear Friends in their isolated situation, and report next year," Claiming our attention we appoint our Friends Stephen Jones, Henry T. Wood, Gertrude W. Cartland, Thomas B. Nichols and Mary C. Jones a committee to take the subject into prayerful consideration and if way opens for it, take such action in the case as in their judgment shall seem best. And if any expense is incurred thereby, they are at liberty to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the same.

Com appd in regard to Legislation on acct of removal of Yly Mtg

The following Minute of our last Yly Meeting has been read, Viz. "The Act of Incorporation obtained from the legislature of the State of Maine to enable this Yearly Meeting to hold its sessions on alternate years in that State not being satisfactory, we refer the subject to the Representative Meeting for further consideration until next year." Whereupon we appoint our Friends Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Augustus T. Cox, George Douglas and Augustine Jones a committee to whom we refer the subject.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to hire such sums of Money not exceeding Three Thousand Dollars as he may need from time to time to pay such bills as may be presented to him, duly approved.

Then adjourned

1876 2 Mo 2d

Opening Minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Providence 2d Mo 2d 1876

Names of members

Present Thirty-one members; Viz — Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, George Howland, Jr.,

1876
2 mo 2d

Charles R. Tucker, Susan Taber, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, ~~Thomas B. Nichols~~, Sarah W. Goddard, Samuel Buffum, Elmira B. Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones Hannah J. Bailey, Perez Peck, George Richardson, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel R. Buffington, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland Henry T. Wood; for the absence of several of our members sufficient reasons have been assigned.

Com to print London Epistle Report.

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to cause a reprint of the London General Printed Epistle; Report the service performed.

Report of Com on Peace Petition

The committee appointed to arrange the names and dispose of the Petition on the subject of Peace, report the service performed; and a letter from H. B. Anthony U. S. Senator from R. I. in acknowledgment of the receipt of a letter from the Committee, thanking him for his kindness in presenting the Petition to the Senate of the U. S. and for his cordial and effective speech made on the occasion, has been received from him and is as follows; viz.

Letter from H B. Anthony U. S. Senator

"United States Senate Chamber
Washington Jan 7th 1876

Wm O. Newhall
Augustine Jones

Dear Friends,

I received with much gratification your note of the 3d. Believing in the benign principles of peace, I am pleased that so right a service as that which you acknowledge should be deemed worthy of your attention. It is my sincere wish that the sentiments of your Memorial will strengthen with advancing civilization to the amelioration of mankind and to conformity with Christian philanthropy.

Very faithfully yours
H. B. Anthony"

Report of Com on British Provinces

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting in reference to the Members of our Yearly Meeting residing

1876
1st Mo 2nd

Report of Com on Friends residing in British Provinces Continued

in the British Provinces have made the following report; viz — "To the Representative Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the 8th Mo last, to visit our scattered Friends in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, report.

We have been mindful of our appointment, and at a Meeting of the Committee in Vassalboro in the 4th Mo, at which most of the members were present, the subject was seriously considered; and as our friend John Carey from Indiana, expressed a religious concern to visit Friends in those parts, Stephen Jones, one of the Committee, felt it right to accompany him, and a desire being felt by others of the committee, to whom way did not open for a personal visit, to express their Christian interest in writing; an Epistle was prepared, which being approved and signed on behalf of the Committee, was forwarded by the Friends visiting them, and read in all the families and in the Meeting at Picton, which is the only Meeting that continues to be held.

From the accounts given by Stephen Jones we quote the following, viz; "There are perhaps 20 members about Picton and the river John; and 20 Miles from Picton, we found quite a number of the Kitchen family, with whom we had an evening Meeting, and spent some time pleasantly, and it was thought profitably, and although with some the cause of Truth would seem at a low ebb, others gave encouraging evidence of religious interest; At Falmouth once resided two worthy Friends and their children, only two of whom remain, these received us kindly, and seemed with us in feeling and principle. A public Meeting was held here. At several other places we found the descendents of Friends, from all of whom we received a cordial welcome. On the Island of Cape Breton we held two public meetings, and spent a few days to good satisfaction, with our dear aged friend, Dougald B. Mc Nab, who seemed to rejoice in our visit; and the interest thus manifested by Friends.

The Books and Tracts furnished us by the Trustees of the Obadiah Brown Benevolent Fund, for distribution, were thankfully received, not only by our members, but by other serious people with whom we occasionally mingled."

The little service which the committee have thus been enabled to perform, we feel assured, under the divine blessing, will tend to the encouragement and comfort of our dear Friends, living so remote from so many social and religious privileges, which our members in other sections are favored to enjoy.

We commend them to the continued care and sympathy of Friends, and believing there is an open field for usefulness among them; we prayerfully trust the Lord of the harvest will send thither some of his labourers.

On behalf of the Committee

Stephen Jones
Gertrude W. Cartland
Mary C. Jones
Providence 2d Mo 1876 Thomas B. Nichols"

which is very satisfactory and encouraging to this Meeting.

Com on Removal of Yly Mtg contin The Committee appointed in reference to the act of incorporation from the Legislature of the State of Maine. Report attention to the subject, but not being prepared to report in full is continued.

Bequest of Luke Aldrich. The following communication is received from our Friend Nelson Taft Exr of the last will and testament of our late dear Friend Luke Aldrich; Viz —

"To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held at Providence R.I. 2d Mo 2d 1876 -

Extracts from the last will and testament of our dear Friend Luke Aldrich late of Woonsocket R.I.

Section Fourth. I give and devise to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, all my real and personal Estate that remains after my just debts are paid, also after the payment of the second and third bequests herein before made.

The income arising from said estate to be applied towards the support of their Boarding School established at Providence in the State of Rhode Island.

And my will is that said Yearly Meeting of Friends may at any time they shall deem it proper so to do, sell and dispose of said real estate, and apply the proceeds thereof to the purposes of

1876 2 mo 2nd Education as shall seem to them most conducive to the general good of said Institution. It being my desire as far as the small means with which I have been favored will enable me, to promote the Literary and Religious, Education of the children and youth of our Society free from the contaminating influence of the vain and fashionable world

Nelson Taft Exr."

Trust accepted & Com appd to carry into effect We accept the trust on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, and appoint our Friends Richard Battey, Edward Earle and Augustine Jones a Committee to whom we refer the subject with power to act in the premises as in their judgment may seem best, and if they decide to dispose of the property referred to, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is hereby authorized to make and execute the necessary deed of conveyance. The Committee is authorized to give a release to the Exr.

Com appd to provide homes during Yly Mtg We appoint the following named Friends a committee to take the necessary care in providing homes for Friends in attendance of the ensuing Yearly Meeting; Viz George Bowen, George Howland Jr, Susan S. Thompson, Thomas B. Buffum and Anna T. Dennis.

Then adjourned

1876 6 mo 9th

Opening Minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport
6th Mo 9th 1876

Members present Present Thirty Eight members Viz Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan Taber, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglas, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Eli Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Samuel Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel R. Buffington, Edward Earle, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer and Thomas Folsom. For the absence of several others sufficient reasons were given.

Strangers present We have at this time the acceptable company of our Friends Barnabas C. Hobbs and Nathan H. Clark from Western Yearly Meeting. Ind.

1876
6 mo 9th
Report of
Com on
Removal of
Yly Mtg

The Committee appointed in the 8th Mo last, in reference to the Act of Incorporation obtained from the Legislature of the State of Maine which was referred to this Mtg by our last Yearly Meeting, have made the following Report, viz— "State of Maine. In the Year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Six.

An Act to amend the Charter of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows.

Section I. The third section of "An Act to Incorporate the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England," passed February 17th, in the Year Eighteen Hundred and Seventy Five, is hereby amended by striking out the proviso, which is in the following words; "Provided that real and personal Estate held by said Corporation, shall not be exempt from taxation," and said proviso is hereby repealed.

Section II. This Act shall take effect when approved.

In House of Representatives Feb 17th 1876
This bill having had three several readings, passed to be Enacted.

Frederick Robie Speaker.

In Senate Feb 18th 1876
This bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

Thos. W. Hyde President

Feb 18th 1876
Approved
Seldon Connor Governor.

State of Maine. Office of Secretary of State.
Augusta Feb 19th 1876
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original as deposited in this Office
S. J. Chadbourne
Secretary of State.

Which we refer to the Yearly Meeting and the Committee is released.

415
6 mo 9th
1876

Report of Com on bequest of Luke Aldrich

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting in reference to the bequest of our late dear Friend Luke Aldrich have made the following report, viz –

To the Representative Meeting.

Your Committee appointed in the 2nd Mo last, on the Bequest of Luke Aldrich late of Woonsocket R.I. Report: That we examined the premises, and thought best to sell the Real Estate, consisting of a Cottage House and Lot, with other out Buildings. Which was sold at Public Auction 3rd Mo 18th 1876 for the sum of Four Thousand Dollars.

Which sum has been paid to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting. Expenses of sale paid by the Executor.

Richard Battey
Edward Earle } Com
Augustine Jones

Woonsocket R.I. 6th Mo 1876

Rept recd & com released

Which is satisfactory to this Meeting, and the Committee is released from further service.

Treasurer to pay for Wesleyan Hall in Boston

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall in the City of Boston, the sum of four Hundred and Fifty Dollars, for the rent of said hall the coming year, used by Friends residing in Boston and vicinity to hold their Meetings in.

Communication recd from Overseers of Salem Mo Mtg

The following communication is received from the Overseers of Salem Mo Meeting; viz –

"To the Representative Meeting

Dear Friends

On behalf of Salem Monthly Meeting we desire to ask your advise in relation to what the Yearly Meeting has determined shall be our Method of procedure in certain Matters; viz –

Is the appointment of Treasurer, Correspondent, Auditors &c valid and legal when made by the Men's Meeting alone, or does it require the action of the Women's Mtg in concurrence or otherwise?

2nd Are the signatures of all the Overseers of a Mo Meeting – Men and Women – necessary to the validity

1876
6 mo 9th

of a deed in the conveyance of real Estate &c

Signed

Moses F. Rogers
Joseph S. Nichols
James P. Boyce
Owen Dame
} Overseers

Lynn 6th Mo 7th 1876

Which having been read we conclude to refer to the Yearly Meeting

Records directed to be laid bef. Yly Mtg — The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting

Concluding minute — Adjourned to the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Wm O. Newhall
Clerk

1876
6 Mo 15
Opening minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th Mo 15th 1876

Information from Clk of Yly Mtg — Names of Members — The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following named Friends have been appointed to compose a Representative Meeting; Viz. Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, William O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr, Charles R. Tucker, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan T. Thompson, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elisabeth A. Douglas, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Collon, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Mary C. Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Jacob K. Purinton, Samuel Buffum, Elmina B. Buffum, Lydia E. Jenkins, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Perez Peck, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, William C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, Stephen Jones and Thomas Folsom, of whom

Members present — the following 33 members are present —
Viz Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Anna T. Dennis,

1876-6 Mo 15th
Names of Members present Continued

William O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr, Susan T. Thompson, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglas, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Sarah W. Goddard, Samuel Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe S. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, William C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Edward Earle, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer and Thomas Folsom.

Clerk appd

William O. Newhall is appointed Clerk for the ensuing year.

Regular Mtgs appd

It is concluded that the regular Meetings for the year ensuing, be held as follows; Viz

At Lynn on Sixth day the 11th of Eighth Month next at 2. O'clk P.M.

At Portland on Sixth day befo the commencement of the Yearly Meeting, at 6. O'clk P.M. unless otherwise determined by this Meeting, in which case due notice will be given

Then adjourned.

1876
8 Mo 11
Opening Minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn 8th Mo 11th 1876

Names of Members present

Present at this time 27 members. Viz; George Bowen Gertrude W. Cartland, Wm O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, Susan Taber Thompson, George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Eli Jones, Elmira B. Buffum, Phebe S. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Samuel R Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Edward Earle, Joseph Cartland, Henry T Wood, Lemuel Jones and Thomas Folsom, for the absence of many others sufficient reasons were assigned.

Reception of the London General Epistle

The General Epistle from London for 1876 has been received and read at this time, and in order that its instructive counsel may be transmitted to our Members and others we appoint Charles F. Coffin and Augustine Jones a committee to cause 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings in their usual

1876
8 mo 11th

proportions, and the Committee are at liberty to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the money to defray the expense thereof.

Minute of
Yly Mtg
n relation
o Meeting
Next year
at Portland
om appn
to investigate

The following minute from our last Yearly Meeting has been received as follows, Viz;

"At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England
held in the Sixth Month 1876.

In accordance with the Legislative Acts, which have been enacted by the State of Rhode Island and the State of Maine, it was concluded to hold our next Yearly Meeting at Portland, Maine; provided that our Representative Meeting investigate the subject, and that no valid or legal objection appear, but what can be surmounted. If from any cause however, it becomes necessary to meet at Newport next year, the said Representative Meeting is directed to give ample notice thereof.

From the Minutes of the Meeting
Charles R. Tucker
Clerk"

Whereupon we appoint our Friends Augustine Jones, Edward W. Howland, Augustus F. Cox, Lemuel Jones, George Douglas, Reuben F. Jones, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Elizabeth A. Douglas, S. Jane Cox, Phebe P. Jones, Eli Jones and Charles F. Coffin a committee to act in the premises according to the direction of the Yearly Meeting; also to make all necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting.

Minute of
Yly Mtg
in relation
to subject
from Salem
Mo Mtg

The following minute is received from the Yearly Meeting and has been read, Viz;

"The following communication from Salem Monthly Meeting has been received by us through the Representative Meeting, Viz:

Lynn 6th Mo 7th 1876

To the Representative Meeting:

Dear Friends, —

On behalf of Salem Monthly Meeting, we desire to ask your advice in relation to what the Yearly Meeting has determined shall be our

8 Mo 11th 1876

Subject from Salem Mo Mtg continued

method of procedure in certain matters, Viz:

Is the appointment of treasurer, correspondent, auditors &c, valid and legal, when made by the Men's Meeting alone, or does it require the action of the Women's Meeting in concurrence or otherwise?

Are the signatures of all the Overseers of a Monthly Meeting, Men and Women, necessary to the validity of a deed in conveyance of real estate, &c?

Moses F. Rogers.
Joseph S. Nichols.
James P. Boyce.
Owen Dame.

Conclusion of the Yy Mtg in the case

This was read and after deliberate consideration it was the judgment of Friends that it be referred to our Representative Meeting for the examination of all legal enactments bearing upon the subject, to report to this Meeting next year.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting held 6th Mo 1876.

Charles R. Tucker
Clerk".

Com appd to whom the subject is referred

Whereupon we appoint our Friends Augustine Jones, Samuel R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Thomas Folsom, Hannah B. Sawyer, Wm C. Taber, Edward Earle, Ann B. Earle, Charles F. Coffin, Gertrude W. Cartland and Joseph Cartland a committee to whom we refer the subject.

Report of Com of New Bedf. M. Mtg

The following report from a committee of New Bedford Monthly Meeting has been presented to this Meeting and read and is as follows, Viz; "The committee appointed to confer with the Overseers of New Bedford Monthly Meeting concerning the distribution of the Abner Pease fund, make the following report, viz; They recommend that two custodians be appointed from the Overseers of New Bedford Monthly Meeting one from Long Plain Preparative Meeting the other from New Bedford, to hold all the funds and receive

1876
8 mo 11th

all the income from said funds, and pay over said income, as soon as received, to the Long Plain Preparative Meeting or their duly authorized Agent or Treasurer that they may appoint to receive said income; the said Preparative Meeting to see that said income is disbursed according to the intent of the Donor and the Decree of the Court. The said Meeting shall give the said Custodians a copy of the Minutes or Record of the appointment of their said agent or treasurer ~~to receive said~~ income from said custodians, and who shall give his receipt therefor. The said Treasurer or Agent, shall once in each year, present to an auditing committee to be appointed by New Bedford Monthly Meeting, an account of all payments of said trust funds or income, and shall produce vouchers for all monies paid out and disbursed. After said accounts have been audited the said Treasurer or Agent shall hold said vouchers, one year, to be kept in some Fire Proof Safe. At the end of the year said vouchers shall be given up to said Custodians, who shall give their receipt for the same; the said custodians shall put said vouchers in the Trunk where the securities of said fund are; to be kept in some Fire Proof Safe; so that the Long Plain Preparative Meeting can have access to them through the custodians. Said Trunk not to be opened except in the presence of both Custodians; provided however, one of the custodians should be sick or absent, then one of the Overseers may act in his stead.

This report if adopted, to be recorded on the records of the Monthly Meeting of New Bedford.

Edward W. Howland
George Howland Jr
Ezra Kelley "

Report app- & directed to be recorded

Which is approved by this Meeting, and directed to be placed upon its records and the Clerk is directed to endorse the action of this Meeting upon it and forward it to New Bedford Monthly Meeting.

Request of Salem Mo Mtg respecting membership

Salem Monthly Meeting requests that this Meeting should decide as to which Monthly Meeting a child belongs, when the Father is a member of one Monthly Meeting, and the Mother of another. Which having

1876 8 mo 11th been considered it is the conclusion of this Meeting, that the children are members of that Monthly Meeting to which the Father belongs. And the clerk is directed to inform Salem Monthly Meeting accordingly.

Then adjourned.

1876 6 Mo 9th Opening minute

At a Representative Meeting held at Portland Maine Sixth Month 9th 1877

Members present

Present at this time 35 members Viz Wm O. Newhall, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr, Susan Taber Thompson, George Douglass, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elisabeth A. Douglass, Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Mary C. Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Jacob K. Purinton, Samuel Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Samuel R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Folsom and Stephen Jones.

Report of Com in London Epistle

The Committee appointed in the 8th Mo last to cause a reprint of the London General Epistle to be made, report the service performed.

Report of Com on Subject from Salem Mo Mtg

The Committee to whom was referred the subject from Salem Monthly Meeting made the following report viz: "The Committee to which was referred the communication from Salem Monthly Meeting.

Report as follows;

As to the first question they suggest that the appointment of all the Officers named shall be by the concurrent action of both Meetings.

And as to the second question they suggest that in the conveyance of real Estate the deeds should be signed by a majority of all the Overseers of the Monthly Meeting including men and women

Augustine Jones
Joseph Cartland
Henry T. Wood
Samuel R Buffinton
} on behalf of the Committee "

Portland 6 Mo 8th 1877

which is satisfactory to this Meeting.

Testimony concerning P & J. Peck refered to next Rep Mtg

A Testimony from Greenwich Monthly Meeting, Endorsed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting and forwarded by direction of that Meeting to this Meeting has been read concerning our late beloved Friends Percy & Joanna Peck, which this Meeting concludes to refer to the next Representative Meeting.

Clk directed to lay Records of this Mtg befor Yly Mtg

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Wm O. Newhall
Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held at Portland, 6th mo 14. 1877.

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs that the following named Friends have been appointed to compose a Representative Meeting. viz Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M Hanson, Hannah B Sawyer, George Howland Junr, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan T Thompson, George Douglass, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Richard Battey Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Mary C. Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Jacob K. Purinton, Samuel Buffum, Elmira B. Buffum, Lydia E. Jenkins, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Geo Richardson, Edw. W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Benj Buffum, Saml. R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Ebenezer Fry, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, and Stephen Jones,

Of this number 32 members are present at this meeting viz William O Newhall, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr. George Douglass, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Elmira B. Buffum, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Edward W Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Benj Buffum, Saml R. Buffinton Matthew Howland, Ebenezer Fry, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Folsom, Stephen Jones, Abigail M. Hanson, Susan T. Thompson, Geo. Richardson, and Saml Buffum,

Henry T. Wood is appointed clerk of this meeting the ensuing year.

1877 6th mo. The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay the sum of Three hundred and fifty dollars to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall, to provide a place for Friends in Boston to hold a meeting for worship during this year. 1877.

The Treasurer is also requested to pay to the treasurer of the Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs the sum of Three hundred and forty dollars ($340.) as our proportion of the sum required of the several Yearly Meetings to prosecute the concern entrusted to that committee.

It was concluded that the regular meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows: viz. At Lynn on Sixth day the 10th of eighth month at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth day the 6th of Second month 1878. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

At Newport on Sixth day the 14th of sixth month 1878 at 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

The meeting then adjourned.

1877 8 mo 10. At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8th mo 10. 1877

Present at this time 27 members, viz, Thomas Harkness, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Junr, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Susan T. Thompson, Augustus F. Cox, Salome J. Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, George Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Augustine Jones, Thomas A. Wheeler, Wm C. Taber, Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Moses Sawyer, and Thomas Folsom,

For the absence of nine other members reasons have been assigned.

Testimony concerning Perez and Joanna Peck referred. The Testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friends Perez and Joanna Peck, which was referred to this meeting by the Representative Meeting held in Portland in the Sixth month, having been again read, it was concluded to refer the Essay to the following named friends for examination and revision, to report to a future meeting: viz, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Harkness, Eli Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Gertrude W. Cartland, and Abigail M. Hanson.

The following was received at this time from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting viz.

To Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting of Friends

Dear friends, Your Committee to advise and assist ministers in

1877 8th mo the performance of their religious service find there has been paid out to defray their travelling expenses. Two hundred and eighty three dollars + $\frac{50}{100}$. We recommend it being forwarded to the Representative Meeting for its consideration.

Signed Ebenezer Frye
Hezekiah Pope } on behalf of Committee

The Quarterly Meeting accepts the report and directs that it be sent to the Representative Meeting. From the minutes of Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting held the 25th of 5th mo 1877.

Signed / Charles B. Cates. Clerk.

The foregoing commeunication having been read and considered, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting was requested to pay to the Treasurer of Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting the sum of $283.50 a sum expended by that meeting in defraying the travelling expenses of Friends engaged in religious service

Com^t to invest proceeds of sales of land belonging to School.

Our friends Benjamin Buffum, Edward W. Howland, Charles F. Coffin, and George L. Collins are authorized, in connection with the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to invest, the funds arising from the sale of any portion of the land belonging to the Boarding School property in Providence

The Treasurer is directed to pay the income ~~arising~~ accruing from such investments to the Treasurer of the School Fund, and report the same to the Yearly Meeting, annually.

The meeting then adjourned.

1878 2mo. 6

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence 2d mo 6. 1878, Present at this time 25 members. viz. Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Wm O. Newhall, Chas. F. Coffin, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Junr, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, Ann B. Earle, Ann K. Colton, Eli Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Edwd W. Howland, Wm C. Taber, Benjamin Buffum, Saml R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Henry T. Wood, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anna T. Dennis, Abigail M. Hanson

For the absence of seven of our number excuses have been furnished.

Com^t on Testimony concerning Perez and Joanna Peck

The Committee to which was referred, at our last meeting, the Testimony concerning our late beloved friends Perez and Joanna Peck, informed this meeting through one of their number that they had given attention to the subject, but were not prepared at this time to report. The Committee was continued under appointment.

The following named Friends are appointed to take the necessary care to

1878
2d mo 6 provide homes for Friends in attendance, and also to make suitable arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport. viz George Bowen, Benjamin Buffum, Saml R. Buffinton, Thomas B. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Ellen K Buffum, Susan T. Thompson. and George Howland Junr.

The practice, which has been continued for a number of years, of defraying from the Treasury a portion of the travelling expenses of Friends who may attend the Yearly Meeting from a distance, viz, of those residing north of a line drawn east from Salem, was considered at this time. and after a careful examination of the subject we are united in judgment that this practice may now be justly discontinued. The Clerk is directed to inform the Quarterly meetings of Salem, Falmouth, Dover. 'Vassalboro' and 'Fairfield of this conclusion.

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative meeting held in Newport, 6th mo 14. 1878,

Present 34 members, viz. Thomas Harkness, George Bowen, Anna T. Dennis, Wm O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Abigail M. Hanson, Hannah B. Sawyer, George Howland Jr., George Douglass, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A Douglass, Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Sarah W. Goddard, Moses Bailey, Reuben T. Jones, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Geo. Richardson, Edward W. Howland, Wm C. Taber, Saml R. Buffinton, Matthew Howland, Ebenezer Frye, Joseph Cartland, Henry T. Wood, Lemuel Jones, Thomas Folsom, Stephen Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, and Jacob K. Purinton, and Gertrude W. Cartland.

For the absence of two of our number sufficient reasons were assigned.

The Committee, continued from our last meeting, to which had been referred the testimony concerning our late friends Perez and Joanna Peck, have presented the following report, viz "To the Representative Meeting;

The Committee to which was referred the Memorial of Greenwich Monthly meeting concerning our late Friends, Perez and Joanna Peck, have given attention to their appointment, and, after full consideration, have come to the conclusion that it would not be advisable, at the present time, to forward it to the Yearly Meeting.

Which is submitted to the meeting,

On behalf of the Committee,

Wm C. Taber,
Hannah J. Bailey.

Newport, 6th mo 13. 1878.

1878
6 mo 14

The Report of the Committee having been considered was accepted by this meeting. The testimony is directed to be placed on file; and the Committee is released from further care in the case.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is directed to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall, Boston, the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, it being the provision for a place for Friends of that city to hold a meeting for worship during the year 1878.

The clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Henry T. Wood, clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held in Newport 6th month 20. 1878.

We are informed by the clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year, viz Stephen Chase, Saml. R. Buffinton Ellen K. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Gertrude W Cartland, Mary Alice Brown, George Howland Junr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna G. Wood, Anna F. Hall, Augustus F Cox, John J. Frye, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, James G. Arnold, Ann B. Earle, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Hannah T. Jenkins, S. Narcissa Jacob. Samuel Buffum, Jacob K. Purinton, Anna M. Hussey, Elmira B. Buffum, Reuben T. Jones, Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones Hannah J. Bailey, William O Newhall. Henry T. Wood, George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Sarah F Tobey, Rachel S. Howland, Augustine Jones Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Lydia Haight Rachel B. Nichols, John F Tucker, Alfeed H. Jones, Edward W. Howland, J. William Jacob. Allen Jay, Stephen Jones. Elizabeth A. Slade, Abigail M. Hanson,

Upon calling their names there were present 39 members viz, Stephen Chase, Saml R, Buffinton. Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Gertrude W. Cartland, Mary Alice Brown, Geo. Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes Junr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna F Hall, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey. Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Hannah T Jenkins, Jacob K Purinton Reuben T Jones. Moses Bailey Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O Newhall Henry T Wood, George Douglass, Chas F Coffin, Wm C. Taber. Lemuel Jones, Sarah F Tobey, Rachel S Howland, Rebecca C Grinnell Lydia Haight

1878 6 mo. 20 John F. Tucker. Alfred H. Jones. Edward W. Howland. J William Jacob. Allen Jay. Stephen Jones. Abigail M. Hanson.

Henry T. Wood was appointed clerk to the meeting for the ensuing year.

The Treasurer of the Yearly meeting was requested to pay to the Treasurer of the Associated Executive Committee on Indian affairs the sum of five hundred and ten dollars as our proportion of the sum called for by that Committee in the prosecution of the concern entrusted to them.

It was concluded that the regular meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows. viz

At Lynn on Fourth day the 14th of eighth month at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

At Providence on Fourth day the 5th of Second month 1879 at 3 o clock in the afternoon. And at Portland on Sixth day the 13th of Sixth month at 6 o clock in the afternoon.

The meeting then adjourned

1878 8 mo 14 At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8th mo 14. 1878. - Present at this time 33 members, viz. Stephen Chase, Saml R. Buffinton, Owen Dame, Gertrude W. Cartland, Mary A. Brown, George Howland Junr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna H. Wood. Anna F. Hall, John J Frye. S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, James G. Arnold, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Jacob K. Purinton, Reuben T. Jones, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, William O. Newhall, Henry T. Wood, George Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, Wm C. Taber, Rachel S. Howland, Augustine Jones. Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Edward W. Howland, J. William Jacob, Elizabeth A. Slade, Abigail M. Hanson,

For the absence of eleven of our members excuses were rendered,

The London General Epistle for the present year was laid before us and read, and in order that its salutary counsel may be widely circulated among our members and others, we appoint our friends Augustine Jones and William O Newhall to procure a reprint of 3000 copies and forward them to our several Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions. The Committee is authorized to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred.

The subject referred to us by the Yearly meeting of a threatened war which at that time seemed imminent between two great nations of Europe, and of our responsibility as a Christian body ~~to up~~ faithfully to uphold the principles of Peace before the world, was introduced at this time, and claimed our serious attention. The Testimony issued by the late Yearly Meeting held in London, entitled "An Appeal to our fellow Christians on War," was read, Believing that the general diffusion of the sentiments of this Paper would be beneficial at this time we are united in authorizing our friends Augustine Jones and Wm O Newhall to procure the reprint of 5000. copies of this Appeal, and to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred. The work when printed is to be placed in the hands of the Yearly Meeting's Committee on Peace

1878 for general distribution

8th mo 14 The following communication from Salem Monthly Meeting was presented and read. viz,

"At Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends held 5th mo 30. 1878.

This meeting appoints Augustine Jones. Charles F. Coffin, and Wm O. Newhall, a committee to present to the Representative Meeting the condition of the Meeting house fund in Boston; and such matters connected therewith as they may deem proper, - for its advice and assistance, and they are requested to report to this meeting.

From the Minutes of the aforesaid Meeting,-

J. Ellwood Paige, Clerk."

Whereupon we refer the consideration of this subject to our friends Edwd. W. Howland, Thomas Harkness, and William C. Taber, to inquire respecting the condition of the funds resulting from the sale of the Boston meeting house and lot, and whether any action is desirable in the case, and to report their judgment to a future meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yearly meeting is authorized to procure a temporary loan of a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, to meet any demands upon the Treasury in anticipation of the quotas of stock, to be received from the several Quarterly Meetings.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence 2d mo 5. 1879.

Present at this meeting 29 members viz Stephen Chase, Samuel R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Geo Howland Junr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna F. Hall, Augustus F. Cox, John J. Fry, S Jane Cox, Richard Battey, James G. Arnold, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O Newhall, Henry T Wood William C. Taber, Sarah F. Tobey, Rachel S. Howland, Augustine Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, John F Tucker, and Allen Jay.

Reasons for the absence of ten of our members have been forwarded to us.

The Committee appointed in the 8th month to procure a reprint of the London General Epistle of last year reported attention to the duty as directed.

The Committee appointed at the same time to cause a reprint of the "Appeal to our fellow christians on War" reported that the service had been performed, and that the quotas of the several Quarterly Meetings had been forwarded for distribution to members of the Yearly Meeting's Committee on Peace in each Quarterly Meeting.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to consider the case referred from Salem Monthly Meeting respecting the funds arising from the sale of the Boston meeting house and lot have presented the following report at this time.

1879 To the Representative Meeting now Sitting

The Committee to whom the matters of the

2 mo 5 Boston Meeting house fund was referred, report, that they have attended to their appointment and find the fund to consist of nine bonds of one thousand dollars each of the

Report of Committee on Boston meeting house fund

City of Providence, and a small sum in addition deposited in the New Bedford Five cent Savings Bank. They recommend that this fund be kept separate from other funds and property of the Yearly Meeting and that a separate record of the income and expenditures on account of the fund be kept on the books of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting; that the income thereof not used for the maintenance and expenses of the Boston meeting be added annually to the principal sum thereof, to be reserved for the original purpose of the fund, and that the payments be strictly confined to the necessary expenses of the meeting in Boston, and under the direction of the Yearly Meeting.

signed Wm C. Taber

Providence 2 mo 5. 1879 Thomas Harkness

The Report was satisfactory and the recommendations were accepted by the meeting. The Committee was released from further care.

The following communication from Windham Monthly Meeting was received and read at this time.

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Communication from Windham Mo Meeting respecting the Indians

This and the Women's meeting are united in calling the attention of the Representative meeting to the propriety of preparing and circulating petitions to be forwarded to Congress in favor of the Indians, that they be dealt with justly

From the minutes of Windham Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Windham 1st mo 17. 1879

signed. Nathan Pope. Clerk.

After careful consideration of the subject, while we recognize the interest felt by that Monthly Meeting in the welfare of the Western Indians the meeting was united in judgment that it would be best at present to leave the ~~interest of this~~ x subject in the care of the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting upon that concern. The Clerk was directed to inform Windham Monthly meeting of our conclusion in this case

We are informed that the following clause appears in the will of Rebecca W.

Bequest of R W. Allinson

Allinson late of Burlington New Jersey, deceased

"I give and bequeath to the Friends Syrian Mission, Fifty dollars, for the Training School, designed to be established on Mt. Lebanon, Palestine, the land for which purpose has been purchased by Theophilus Waldemair, resident there."

This meeting gratefully accepts the bequest as evidence of the remembrance of this

1879
2 mo 5

interesting concern by our late beloved friend and the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to receive the same, give the Executor a sufficient discharge therefor and place the sum in the hands of the Yearly Meeting's Committee on Foreign Missions

Members in the British Provinces

The condition of the few members of our Society in the British Provinces residing principally at Cape Breton, was brought to our notice at this time. Whereupon we appoint our Friends Eli Jones. Henry T. Wood and Thomas B. Nichols a committee to transmit by letter to those distant members our feelings of interest and sympathy for them in their isolated condition, and Friends are also requested to contribute in their freedom for the relief of their physical needs.

Committee to provide for Yearly Meeting

We appoint our Friends Augustus F Cox John J Frye, Moses Bailey George Douglass, Hannah J Bailey, Reuben T Jones, and S Jane Cox to take the necessary care of providing homes for Friends in attendance, and also to make suitable arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting in Portland

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held at Portland 6th mo 13. 1879

Present at this time 38 members viz. Ellen K. Buffum. Anna T. Dennis Owen Dame, George Howland Junr, Josiah Holmes Jr. Anna G. Wood, Anna F Hall, Augustus F. Cox, John J. Fryer Richard Battey, James G. Arnold, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Jacob K Purinton, Anna M. Hussey, Reuben T Jones, Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O. Newhall, Henry T Wood, George Douglass, Elizabeth A Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, William C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Augustine Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Lydia Haight Rachel B. Nichols, Allen Jay, Elizabeth A Slade, Abigail M. Hanson S. Jane Cox, Saml R. Buffinton, J. William Jacob, and Samuel Buffum. For the absence of five of our members. sufficient reasons have been assigned.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to communicate with the few members of our Religious Society residing in the British Provinces have presented the following report.

To the Representative Meeting in the 6th month 1879.

The Committee to correspond with the Friends in the British Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, report, - that as near as we can ascertain there are about thirty three members of our Society in these Provinces. They are located mostly at Pictou and on Cape Breton Island. We wish in particular to report the situation of the Friends on this Island. One of them is an aged man who has for a long time held the office of crown land surveyor, but who relinquished his situation on account of conscientious scruples against performing the work in so slight a manner, as to leave it liable to much legal contention. He is now about 85 years of age, and receives from Government twenty five pounds annually as a reward for his past services.

He, with his daughter, and her three young children, constitute a family and other than the income mentioned above, they have no means of support. The money placed in our hands has been forwarded to this family. From a letter of correspondence we take the following "I thank you for the friendly interest you take in our welfare"

We commend the subject to the continued care of Friends.

signed. Eli Jones
Thos. B. Nichols.

The Report was accepted and the Committee released from further care.

The condition of these Friends claimed our sympathy, and it was concluded to refer the case to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

The following communication received from Falmouth Quarterly Meeting was then read.

"To the Representative Meeting.

This meeting is desirous of asking of the Representative Meeting the following question "Has a minister the right of appeal from the decision of a Monthly meeting to that of a Quarterly Meeting when its approval of his ministry has been denied him.?"

From the minutes of Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at South Durham 8th mo 31. 1878.

signed Charles W. Webber, Clerk.

Upon consideration the meeting was united in presenting this case to the Yearly Meeting for its disposal.

We have at this meeting the company of our friend Isaac P. Evans of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to lay the Records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned to meet at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Henry T. Wood, clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held in Portland 6th mo 19. 1879

We are informed by the clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year. viz Stephen Chace, Saml R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Gertrude W. Cartland, Mary Alice Brown, Geo. Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes. Junr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna G. Wood, Anna F. Hall, Augustus F. Cox, John J. Frye, S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, James G. Arnold, Ann B. Earle, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Hannah T. Jenkins, S. Narcissa Jacob, Samuel Buffum, Jacob K. Purinton, Anna N. Hussey, Elmira B. Buffum, Reuben T. Jones, Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, William O Newhall, Henry T. Wood. George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, William C. Taber. Lemuel Jones, Sarah F. Tobey, Rachel S. Howland, Augustine Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Lydia Haight, Rachel B. Nichols, John F. Tucker., Alfred H. Jones, David K. Akin, J. William Jacob, Allen Jay, Stephen Jones. Elizabeth A. Slade, Abigail M. Hanson,

Whose names being called there were present 29 members viz Ellen K. Buffum. Owen Dame. George Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes Junr. Reuben T. Jones, Moses Bailey. Phebe P. Jones. Hannah J Bailey. Wm O. Newhall. Henry T. Wood. William C. Taber. Anna G. Wood. Anna F. Hall. Augustus F. Cox John J. Frye. S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey. James G. Arnold. Abby S. Battey. Eli Jones. Thomas B. Nichols. Jacob K. Purinton. Rachel S. Howland. Lydia Haight, Rachel B. Nichols David K. Akin. Allen Jay. Elizabeth A Slade. and Abigail M. Hanson.

Henry T. Wood was appointed clerk to the meeting for the ensuing year.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall, the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars it being the provision for a place for a meeting for worship for Friends in Boston for this year 1879.

The Treasurer is also requested to pay to the treasurer of the Associated Executive Committee on Indian Affairs, the sum of three hundred and forty dollars. this sum being the quota for this Yearly Meeting of the sum called for by that Committee in the prosecution of the concern entrusted to them.

It was concluded that the regular meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows. viz, At Lynn on Fourth day the 20th of 8th month at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. And at Newport on Sixth day the 11th of 6th month 1880 at 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8th mo 20. 1879.

Present at this time 38 members viz Stephen Chace, Saml R. Buffinton, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Gertrude W. Cartland, Mary Alice Brown, George Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna G. Wood, Anna F. Hall, Augustus F. Cox, John J. Frye, S. Janes Cox, James G. Arnold, Eli Jones, Reuben T. Jones, Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Henry T. Wood, George Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Augustine Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, John F. Tucker, David K. Akin, J. William Jacob, Abigail M. Hanson, Wm O. Newhall, Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey, Lydia Haight, and Jacob K. Purinton,

For the absence of three of our members sufficient reasons have been rendered,

We have the acceptable company of our friend Thomas Kimber of New York Yearly Meeting.

The late Yearly Meeting having directed that all Trust funds held by that Meeting should be annually examined by a Committee of this meeting we now appoint our friends Owen Dame, Saml R. Buffinton and Henry T. Wood to attend to that duty and report their action to our next regular meeting.

The London General Epistle for the present year was laid before us and read, and in order that its salutary contents may be more widely diffused among our members and others we appoint our friends Wm O. Newhall, and Owen Dame, to cause an edition of 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded to our Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions, and the Committee is authorized to draw on our Treasurer for the expense incurred.

An Epistle from the Monthly Meeting of Friends held at the Mission on Mt. Lebanon in Syria in 5th Month last and addressed to the Yearly Meeting was received at this time and read. The Clerk was directed to acknowledge its reception by this meeting and to place the Epistle in the hands of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

The following communication received from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting was then read, viz:

"To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting;

Dear Friends:

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Women Friends held at East Greenwich in Fifth Month last, information was received from South Kingstown Monthly Meeting that they had united with the Meeting of Ministers and Elders in acknowledging the gift and approving the public appearances in the ministry of Harriette D. Collins.

This meeting not coming to any conclusion on the subject passed to other business.

In the 8th Month at Newport the following minute was

1879 8mo 20 at Lynn made, viz. "The subject from South Kingstown coming before us at this time the same is referred to the Representative Meeting for their judgment, men Friends concurring therein."

In the Men's Meeting the following minute was adopted, viz. "A proposition has been received from the Women's meeting to refer the subject from South Kingstown Monthly Meeting relative to approving the public appearances in the ministry of Harriette D. Collins to the Representative Meeting, with which reference this meeting unites."

Taken from the minutes of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Newport 8th mo 7. 1879

signed / Saml R. Buffinton } Clerks
Esther Chace

After mature deliberation it was concluded to refer the case thus presented to a Committee and our friends David K. Akin, Wm C. Taber, Josiah Holmes Jr. Anna G. Wood, Abby S. Battey, Reuben T. Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Mary Alice Brown and Hannah J. Bailey, are appointed to take the subject into careful consideration, and if way should open for it to visit that Quarterly Meeting and render to Friends such advice and assistance, as the case may seem to require, - The clerk is to inform Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of the action of this meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to procure a temporary loan of a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars in anticipation of the quotas to be received from our several Quarterly Meetings.

The following communication from Salem Monthly Meeting was laid before us and read. viz.

"At Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends 3rd mo 13. 1879.
We appoint our friends Owen Dame, George C. Herbert, Peter M. Neal, John H. Crosman, and Augustine Jones, to investigate the subject of marriages in our Society, our duties to the State in that regard, and such other matters in relation thereto as they may deem proper, and they are desired to report to our next meeting.

- - - - - - - - - - -

Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends 8th mo 14. 1879. The Committee appointed in Third month last in relation to rules respecting marriage, presented the following report, which is accepted, and the clerk is directed to forward it to the Representative Meeting.

From the Record
J. Ellwood Paige, Clerk.

- Report -

To Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the laws relating to Marriage as applied to the Society of Friends.

are united in saying that they believe that an amendment of such laws is required, and
1879 with a view to uniformity of practice they recommend that the whole matter be referred to
8mo 29 the Representative Meeting for its consideration with the suggestion that the Statutes of the several States within the limits of our Yearly Meeting relating to this subject, be also examined and efforts made to change them if it should appear to be necessary to do so.

signed, Owen Dame John H. Crosman
P. McNeal Geo. C. Herbert.
Lynn 7th mo 30. 1879 Augustine Jones

Upon consideration of the foregoing it was concluded to refer the subject to our friends Augustine Jones. Moses Bailey and Jacob K. Purinton who are requested to examine the Statutes and should further legislation appear to be desirable in the case to take measures to procure the same, and report to our next meeting.

The meeting then adjourned

At a Special Representative Meeting held in Providence 2d. Month 3. 1880. Present 14 members viz. Stephen Chase Samuel R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, George Howland, Junr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Anna G. Wood, Richard Battey, Henry T. Wood, Augustine Jones, Thomas Harkness, Allen Jay and John F. Tucker. For the absence of 13 of our members sufficient reasons have been received

The clerk informs that this meeting has been called in pursuance of the following request.

To Henry T. Wood. clerk of the Representative Meeting.

Wilt thou please call a Special Representative Meeting to be held in Providence on Third day the 3d of Second month next, for the purpose of appointing a Committee to provide homes for Friends and to make all necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport, R.I.

William O. Newhall.
Owen Dame
C. F. Coffin
Joseph Cartland
1st mo 15. 1880 Josiah Holmes Junr.

1880
2d mo 3
Special
meeting

Our friends Thomas B. Buffum, Samuel R. Buffinton Thomas Harkness, Anna T. Dennis, Mary W. Jones, Stephen Chace, William Shearman, Charles F. Coffin, Jacob Mott, and Susan Mott, were appointed to take the necessary care to provide homes for Friends in attendance and also to make suitable arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport.

The meeting then adjourned.

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th mo 11. 1880.

Present at this time 41 members, viz. Saml R. Buffinton Ellen K. Buffum, Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Geo Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna G. Wood, Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Jacob K. Purinton, Reuben T Jones, Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O. Newhall, Henry T Wood, George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Rachel S. Howland, Lydia Haight, John F. Tucker, David K. Akin, J. William Jacob, Allen Jay Elizabeth A. Slade, Abigail M. Hanson, Anna M. Hussey, Rebecca C. Grinnell Stephen Chase, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Charles F. Coffin, Augustine Jones, Thomas Harkness, and John J. Frye.

Sufficient reasons were rendered for the absence of 5 of our members, We have also at this time the acceptable company of Edward Tatum and Jacob D. Bell of New York Yearly Meeting

The committee appointed in 8th Month last to examine the several trust funds held by this meeting presented a report which was read and is satisfactory. It is as follows.

To the Representative Meeting

The Committee appointed to examine the several trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting have attended to that duty and report their condition as follows.

In the hands of George Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, Twenty Shares of Eagle National Bank, Providence, par value of $50. each certificate dated in 1848.

Six 8 pr cent bonds of $100. each of Flint & Pere Marquette Railway, coupons payable semi-annually, - the eight last coupons remaining unpaid, and still attached to the bonds amounting to $192.-

Seven United States 4½ pr cent bonds of $1000. each, due in 1891. interest payable quarterly.

1880 Deposit in Five Cent Savings Bank. New Bedford of $302.31

6th mo 11 The last two items represent funds arising from the sale of land belonging to the Boarding School at Providence, and are held by the Treasurer in behalf of the School.

Nine thousand dollars in bonds of the City of Providence, due in 1906. – interest at 5 pr cent, payable semi annually,

Deposit in New Bedford Five Cent Savings Bank $448.47

By minute of the Representative Meeting the Treasurer is directed to keep the funds represented by the last two items separate and distinct, no portion of the principal or income to be expended except to provide for a Friends meeting in Boston, under the direction of the Yearly Meeting.

In the hands of Thomas Harkness Treasurer of the School Fund.

These funds appear to be carefully invested and the accounts are kept with accuracy and distinctness. They represent Stocks and other Securities at a cost of $90.166.01 belonging to the General School Fund; and other securities belonging to the Charitable Fund at a cost of $33.138. – A detailed memorandum of these funds is submitted with this report.

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Bailey as Trustees of the Mosher Fund.

One registered 5 prct bond of the City of Boston $10.000.~~

Deposit in New Bedford Institution for Savings 565.38

6th mo 8. 1880 Signed. Saml R. Buffinton

Owen Dame

Henry T. Wood

The Committee appointed at our last regular meeting upon the application of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting for advice and assistance in a case referred to us, now submitted the following report, which was read.

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting

The committee appointed in the eighth month last on the application of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting report – that they have given the subject committed to them their careful consideration. They attended the sitting of that meeting in the Eleventh month following on which occasion the records of the Quarterly Meeting and also of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting relating to the case were read. and an expression of the views of the members of the Quarterly Meeting present on the subject was heard by them, On consulting together six of the eight members of the Committee present were fully united in judgment in the case and the remaining two though differing in opinion submitted to the judgment of their friends

The advice of the Committee was presented to Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting then sitting and was accepted by it.

Which is submitted

Newport 6th Mo 11. 1880

Anna G. Wood
Hannah J. Briley
Rebecca C. Grinnell
Abby S. Battey
David K. Akin
Wm C. Taber
Reuben T. Jones
Committee

The report is satisfactory to this meeting and the Committee are released from further care.

The committee appointed upon the request of Salem Monthly Meeting, to examine the statutes of the several New England States with reference to marriages in our Society, reported attention to the subject, but that they were not prepared to present the case fully to this meeting. The subject is therefore referred to the Representative Meeting of next year.

The following communication was received at this time from Salem Monthly Meeting

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends.

This meeting desires from the Representative Meeting an explicit definition of the status of an individual in a Monthly Meeting where a minute of sojourn in his favor has been received.

In how far is he amenable to its government or entitled to its privileges

From the minutes of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Lynn 6th mo 9. 1880

Signed J Ellwood Paige. Clerk

Upon consideration of the foregoing it was concluded to refer the subject to the ensuing Yearly Meeting.

The clerk is directed to lay the Records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting

Then adjourned to meet at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Henry T. Wood, Clerk

1880 6th mo 17 At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th Mo. 17. 1880.

We are informed by the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends are appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year. viz Stephen Chase. Samuel R. Buffinton Ellen K. Buffum. Anna T. Dennis, Joseph Cartland, Owen Dame, Gertrude W. Cartland Mary Alice Brown, George Howland Junr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson. Anna G. Wood, Anna F Hall. Augustus F Cox, John J. Frye, S. Jane Cox Richard Battey James G. Arnold, Ann B. Earle, Abby S. Battey Eli Jones. Thomas B. Nichols, Hannah T Jenkins S. Narcissa Jacob, Samuel Buffum, Jacob K. Purinton Anna M. Hussey. Elmira B. Buffum. Reuben T. Jones. Moses Bailey, Phebe P. Jones. Hannah J Bailey Wm O. Newhall, Henry T Wood, George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Chas F. Coffin, Wm C. Taber Lemuel Jones. Sarah F Tobey, Rachel S. Howland, Augustine Jones. Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Lydia Haight, Rachel B. Nichols, John F. Tucker, Alfred H. Jones, David K. Akin, J. William Jacob. Allen Jay. Elizabeth A Slade, Abigail M. Hanson, William H. Beale,

Upon calling the names of the above there were present 30 members viz. Stephen Chase. Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, George Howland Jr. Josiah Holmes Jr. Susan T. Thompson. Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox. Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey Jacob K Purinton Anna M. Hussey, Reuben T. Jones. Phebe P. Jones, Wm O. Newhall Henry T Wood, George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Wm C. Taber. Lemuel Jones Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Lydia Haight, David K. Akin, J. William Jacob, Moses Bailey, Hannah J. Bailey, Abigail M. Hanson. Anna G. Wood and Eli Jones.

Henry T Wood was appointed Clerk to the meeting for the ensuing year.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay from the income of Funds in his hands for that purpose, to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall the sum of Three hundred and fifty dollars, it being the provision for a place for a meeting for worship for Friends in Boston for this year 1880.

It was concluded that our regular meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows, viz. at Lynn on Fourth day the 18th of Eighth month at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and at ~~Lynn~~ Portland on Sixth day the 10th of Sixth month 1881 at 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

Our friends Augustine Jones, Moses Bailey and Jacob K. Purinton are reappointed to service assigned to them in the 8th month last. viz to make examination of the Statutes of the States in New England relating to marriage and should further legislation in any case appear to be desirable, to take measures for procuring the same, and report to a future meeting.

We have at this meeting the acceptable company of our friend Jacob D. Bell of New York Yearly Meeting

The meeting then adjourned

1880

8 mo 18 At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn, 8th mo 18, 1880.

Present at this time 29 members, viz. Stephen Chace, Saml R. Buffinton, Owen Dame, George Howland Jr. Susan T. Thompson, Anna G. Wood, Augustus F. Cox, John J. Frye, S. Jane Cox, Eli Jones, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O. Newhall, Henry T. Wood, George Douglass, Charles F. Coffin, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Augustine Jones, Rebecca C. Grinnell, Thomas Harkness, Abigail M. Hanson, Wm H. Beale, Josiah Holmes Jr. Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey, Lydia Haight, Joseph Cartland, Gertrude W. Cartland.

Reasons for the absence of eight of our member have been rendered.

Our friend Jacob D. Bell, of New York Yearly Meeting, is again acceptably present.

We appoint our friends Owen Dame, Saml R. Buffinton, and Henry T Wood a Committee to examine the several trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting, and report to our next regular meeting. The Committee is also directed to consider the character of the investments under these severals Trusts, and report whether in their judgment any change is desirable.

Our friends Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass, John J. Frye, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, S. Jane Cox, and Anna M. Hussey, are appointed to take the requisite care of providing homes for friends in attendance, and also to make all necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting in Portland.

The London General Epistle, of the present year, was then presented and read, and in order that its timely and salutary contents may be widely diffused among our members and others, we appoint our friends, William O. Newhall, and Owen Dame; to cause an edition of three thousand copies to be printed and forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings in the usual proportions, and the Committee is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to procure, by temporary loan, a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, in anticipation of the payment of the respective quotas called for from the several Quarterly Meetings.

The condition of the few members of our Society, who now are, or who were lately residing in the British Provinces, has claimed our attention, and in view of the increased expenditure which now seems necessary to meet the concern of the Yearly Meeting in their behalf, the Committee under appointment on that subject, is authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, for the benefit of these members.

This meeting is informed that individuals have come within the limits of some of our Monthly Meetings, claiming membership in our Society, and also the station of recorded minister, and that these have not presented credentials

1880 for religious service nor certificates of removal. We appoint our friends
8th mo Samuel R. Buffinton, Reuben T. Jones, George Douglass, and Joseph Cartland to consider this subject, and, should it appear necessary for the preservation of good order, or for the reputation of Society, they are authorized to confer with such individuals, and with the meetings of which they claim to be members, and also to extend counsel and advice to Monthly Meetings needing assistance in this respect, and report to our next meeting

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Portland 6th mo 10. 1881.

Present 26 members. viz, Augustus F. Cox. Anna G. Wood. S. Jane Cox, Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones. Phebe P. Jones. Hannah J. Bailey, Wm O Newhall, Henry T. Wood. George Douglass. Elizabeth A. Douglass, Wm C. Taber, Lemuel Jones, Augustine Jones. Lydia Haight, David K. Akin, William Jacob. Allen Jay, William H. Beale Saml R. Buffinton Thomas B. Nichols, Rachel B. Nichols, Abigail M. Hanson, Elizabeth A. Slade and Jacob K. Purinton

For the absence of nine of our number excuses have been received.

The Committee appointed in the 6th month last to examine the Statestes of the States in New England relative to marriages in our Society, and should they find that further legislation in any case appeared necessary, to take measures for procuring the same, now reported that the laws of the several States appeared to be sufficient except in the State of Massachusetts: that they had taken measures to procure the legislation desired, and that the law had been passed, The Committee is released from further care in the case.

The Committee appointed to examine the several trusts held by the Yearly Meeting and the securities composing the same reported as follows, viz

To the Representative Meeting,

The Committee appointed for that purpose have examined the securities and trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting and report their condition as follows,

In the hands of George Howland Junr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting:
Twenty shares of Stock in the Eagle National Bank of Providence, par value of $50. each

Six 8 pr cent bonds of $100. each of Flint & Pere Marquette Railway, coupons payable semi annually

Four United States 4½ pr ct bondes of $1000. each due in 1891 interest payable quarterly.

Deposit in Five cent Savings Bank of New Bedford ---- $302.31

The last two items represent funds accruing from the sale of land belonging to the Boarding School at Providence and are held by the Treasurer in behalf of the School.

Nine 5 pr cent bonds of the City of Providence due in 1906, interest payable semi annually, $1000. each

Deposit in New Bedford Five Cent Savings Bank $561.08

The last two items represent, the Boston Meeting house fund, and no portion of the principal or income is used except to provide a place for a Friends meeting in Boston under the direction of the Yearly Meeting.

In the hands of Thomas Harkness Treasurer of the School Fund, No change has been made in these investments during the past year They represent Stocks and other Securities at a cost of $90.166.01 belonging to the General School fund, and also securities at a cost of $33.138. belonging to the Charitable Fund, A detailed memorandum of these funds is submitted with this report.

In hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Bailey as Trustees of the Mosher Fund,

One bond of the City of Boston for $10.000. due in 1905 at 5 pr ct interest. payable semi annually.

Deposit in New Bedford Institution for Savings $645.23

Deposit in First National Bank of Lynn $1506.78

The Committee do not recommend any change in these investments at the present time.

Signed Owen Dame
6th mo 10. 1881 Henry T Wood
Saml R Buffinton

The Committee appointed in 8th month last to extend care of the case of certain individuals who had come to reside within our limits without credentials or certificates of removal. now reported careful attention to that subject, and also that they believed that further care may be useful. Upon consideration the matter is referred, with the papers presented by the Committee to the next Representative Meeting.

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned to meet at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Henry T Wood clerk

1881 At a Representative Meeting held in Portland 6th mo 16. 1881

By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the following named friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year. viz Thomas Harkness. Benjamin F. Knowles. Sarah F. Tobey. Ellen K. Buffum. Joseph Cartland. Owen Dame. Abigail M. Hanson. Gertrude W. Cartland William C. Taber. George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Susan T. Thompson. Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass. S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglass. Richard Battey, Thomas A. Wheeler. Abby S. Battey. Lydia Haight Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Rachel B. Nichols, Eliza P. Peirce Timothy B. Hussey. Albert C. Buffum Anna M. Hussey Huldah S. Buffum, Levi Jones, Mary W. Jones. Charles M. Bailey Sophia D. Bailey, Charles F. Coffin David K. Akin, Wm O. Newhall Samuel R. Buffinton Henry T. Wood, Augustine Jones. Jacob K. Purinton and Joseph E Briggs

Of the above named members there were present at this meeting the following viz Benjamin F Knowles, Owen Dame, Abigail M Hanson, William C. Taber, Geo. Howland Junr. Susan T. Thompson, Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass. Richard Battey, Abby S. Battey. Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones. Rachel B. Nichols, Timothy B. Hussey, Albert C. Buffum. Levi Jones. Wm O Newhall. Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood. and Joseph E. Briggs.

Henry T. Wood is appointed Clerk of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay from funds in his hands for that purpose, the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall, it being the provision for a place for a meeting for worship for Friends of Boston for this year, 1881.

We are impressed by the courtesy so freely manifested by the City Government of Portland, in allowing the use of the City Hall for our annual assembly, and this, in addition to the kindness and attention shewn to us by the citizens during the week of our sojourn here, merits our thanks, and this expression of obligation on behalf of the Yearly Meeting.

It was concluded that our regular meetings for the ensuing year should be held
as follows. viz at Lynn on Fourth day the 17th of Eighth month next at
2½ 2 o'clock in the afternoon, At Providence on Fourth day the 1st of
Second month 1882. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and at Newport on
Sixth day the 9th of Sixth month 1882 at 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

The meeting then adjourned

1881
8th mo

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn the 17th of 8th month 1881

Present at this time 28 members, viz. Benjamin F. Knowles, Ellen K Buffum, Owen Dame, George Howland Junr, Susan T. Thompson, Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass, S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Wm O. Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton, Eli Jones, Eliza P. Peirce, Timothy B. Hussey, Albert C. ~~Hussey~~ Buffum, Huldah S. Buffum, Levi Jones, David K. Akin, Augustine Jones, Jacob K. Purinton, Joseph E. Briggs, Abby S. Battey, Wm C. Taber, Gertrude W. Cartland, Abigail M. Hanson, Joseph Cartland, Richard Battey, and Thomas A. Wheeler,

The Clerk being absent on account of illness Wm O Newhall is appointed Clerk for the time.

For the absence of six of our members at this time sufficient reasons have been assigned.

The London General printed Epistle for 1881. has been received and read in this meeting to our comfort and encouragement, and in order that its instructive counsel and sound doctrine may be placed within the reach of our members, we appoint Wm O. Newhall and Owen Dame, a Committee to cause an edition of 3000 copies to be printed and forwarded to our several Quarterly Meetings for distribution, and the Committee is authorized to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred.

The subject referred to us from the last Representative Meeting, relating to certain individuals who had come to reside within our limits without credentials for religious service or certificates of removal, was ~~then~~ introduced, and we appoint our friends Joseph Cartland, Saml R. Buffinton, George Douglass, Richard Battey, Levi Jones, and George Howland Junr. a Committee to extend such further care in the case as they may deem needful, and to report their action to a future meeting

The following subject referred to this meeting by Minute No 51 of our late Yearly Meeting was presented and read as follows. viz; "This Meeting has learned with deep regret, that the Legislature of Massachusetts, at its last session, passed an act legalizing instruction in military drill, in the public Schools ~~of~~ in that State. We earnestly remonstrate against all legislation which shall instil into the minds of youth a warlike spirit, so manifestly at variance with the teachings of the Prince of Peace. We refer the subject to the Representative Meeting, to take such action as may in their judgment tend to secure the repeal of the act referred to."

Whereupon we appoint our friends Augustine Jones. Owen Dame. Eli Jones, Benjamin F. Knowles, Joseph Cartland, Timothy B. Hussey, Gertrude W. Cartland, Ellen K. Buffum and Susan T. Thompson, a Committee to whom we refer this subject and they are requested to report their action thereon to a future session of this meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to procure, by temporary loan, a sum of money, not exceeding three thousand dollars, in anticipation of the receipt of the several quotas of Stock from our Quarterly Meetings, called for by our last Yearly Meeting.

This meeting is informed that a company of six native Syrians is now in Boston or its vicinity in ~~its vicinity~~ a suffering condition who have appealed to our friend Eli Jones for assistance, and that two of their number claim to be connected with those who profess with Friends in their own country. The subject claimed our serious attention and we conclude to appoint our friends Eli Jones, Benj F. Knowles, Augustine Jones, Owen Dame, George Howland Jr. and Joseph E. Briggs, a Committee to render them such assistance in obtaining aid, and also transportation to their homes, as they may deem proper.

The attention of this meeting was called to the evils resulting from the use of Opium and especially to the traffic in that article in some foreign countries. After some consideration it was decided to refer the subject to a Committee, who are desired to obtain more definite information thereupon, to be laid before our next meeting. They are also authorized to act in our behalf, ~~either~~ in an expression of sympathy and encouragement to efforts which are being made for the suppression of this traffic, ~~and~~ in such other way as the case may seem to require. Our friends Augustine Jones, Augustus F. Cox, Benj F. Knowles, S. Jane Cox, Ellen K Buffum and Gertrude W. Cartland were appointed to this service

The meeting then adjourned

At a Special Representative Meeting held in Boston 10th month 4. 1881.
Present at this time 10 members viz. Benjamin F. Knowles, Owen Dame, George Howland Jr. Augustus F. Cox, Wm O. Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Charles F. Coffin, David K. Akin, and Jacob K. Purinton.
Reasons for the absence of eleven of our members have been forwarded to us.
The clerk informs that this meeting was called pursuant to the following written request, viz,

To Henry T. Wood, Clerk of the Representative Meeting;

The undersigned request thee to call a Representative meeting, to be held in Boston as soon as it can conveniently be done, to consider what action shall be taken by the Meeting respecting the decease of our late President.

And further to consider respecting a certain donation to the Yearly Meeting.

Ellen K. Buffum (signed) Saml R. Buffinton
Timothy B. Hussey George Howland Junr.
Augustine Jones Sarah F. Tobey
Providence 9th mo 27. 1881.

The meeting first considered the loss which our country had sustained in the removal
1881 by death of its late President, James A Garfield. A sense of bereavement, and also of sympathy
10mo 4 with the family of the deceased, was fully manifested, and the meeting was united in the
Special belief that it would be proper to forward to them an expression of this sympathy. Our
meeting friends George Howland Jr, and Wm O Newhall, with the Clerk, were requested to present to an
Continued adjournment of this meeting an essay of a minute upon this subject. Should the way open in the minds of the Committee also to produce a brief address to the members of this Yearly Meeting, upon the same subject, they have authority for so doing.

George Howland Junr, Clerk of the Boarding School Committee, then informed this meeting of the acceptance, by that Committee, of a Trust, executed by Ella J. Wheeler of Boston, amounting to the sum of thirty thousand dollars, the income of which is to be used in the education of children at the School, under the conditions of the Trust. - this acceptance being subject to the approval of our next Yearly Meeting. The Committee are desirous of the liberty of using, in the interim, the income arising from this fund, for the purposes indicated.

Upon consideration and inquiry, we now give to the School Committee authority to receive and expend the income from this Trust, as set forth, leaving the whole question to the disposal of the Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned to meet in Lynn, on Third day next, 11th instant, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon

At an adjourned Representative Meeting held in Lynn 10th mo 11. 1881.
Present 13 members, viz Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Abigail M. Hanson, George Howland Jr. Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass, S. Jane Cox, Wm O. Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Levi Jones Charles F. Coffin, and Susan T Thompson,

Reasons for the absence of five of our members were rendered.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to produce an essay of a minute expressive of the sense of this meeting relative to the death of our late President now presented the following which was read, and adopted, viz.

"We believe it right, at this time, to record our deep sense of the calamity which has befallen the nation, in the death by violence and wrong, of its honored and respected Chief Magistrate, James A Garfield.

We are as a people unaccustomed, under bereavement, to the use of outward emblems of mourning, yet we trust that none have more deeply felt this outrage upon the government and the institutions under which it is our privilege to live, for this great sin against that Being whose mercy and justice we reverently behold, but cannot fathom, or a deeper sorrow for the loss which our country has sustained. Our hearts go out in tender sympathy to the bereaved and stricken family of our late beloved President, and with the warm assurance of our continued interest and regard, we commend them to the sustaining grace, and the loving care of our Father in Heaven.

The Clerk is directed to forward a copy of the above minute to Lucretia R. Garfield signed on our behalf.

The Committee appointed in the 8th month last to cause a reprint of the London General Epistle to be prepared and forwarded to our several Quarterly meetings for distribution now reported that the service had been performed.

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence 2d. month 1. 1882

Present twelve members, viz. Benj. F. Knowles, Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, George Howland Junr. Anna G. Wood, Richard Battey, Samuel R. Buffinton Henry T. Wood, Abby S. Battey, Eli Jones, Augustine Jones and Wm C. Taber,

Excuses were received for the absence of six of our members,

We have also the acceptable company of our friend John P. Pennington of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

The meeting was informed that the Minute adopted at a Special meeting in the 10th Month respecting the decease of our late beloved President had been forwarded as directed to Lucretia R. Garfield, and that her acknowledgment of its reception had been returned. This communication was read and is as follows,

"Cleveland, O. November 20. 1881.

"My dear friend;

A copy of the Resolutions passed by the Society of Friends, of New-England, at their meeting Oct. 11th has been received, and I wish through you to express to the members of that Society my gratitude for their kind words, as a tribute of the esteem in which they held my husband - their President. I wish also to thank them for their sympathy with us in our great bereavement.

With sincere regard, Yours,
Lucretia R. Garfield"

1882
2 mo 1
Meeting at
Providence
Continued

The Committee appointed in 8th month last respecting a Company of native Syrians then in this country in need of assistance and claiming the sympathy of Friends, now reported careful attention to these people, and that their necessities had been relieved. As further care appears requisite the Committee is continued under appointment and is requested to report to our next meeting.

The Committee also under appointment relative to the traffic in and the use of Opium in our own and in foreign countries presented a report, which has been read. The subject elicited much interest, and our Committee is authorized to prepare the Statement now presented for the press, and to procure the printing of 5000 copies for public circulation. They are also authorized to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred, and are requested to report their action in the case to our next meeting.

Our friends Owen Dame, Saml. R. Buffinton, and Henry T. Wood, are appointed to examine the Accounts and Securities of the several Trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting and report to our next regular meeting. They are also authorized to consider and report whether any change should be made of the Investments under the several Trusts.

We appoint our friends Samuel R Buffinton, Mary A Gifford, Benj F. Knowles Ellen K. Buffum and Mary W. Jones of Newport a Committee to provide homes for Friends in attendance, and to make the necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport

The meeting then adjourned.

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th mo. 9. 1882

Present at this time 23 members viz Thomas Harkness. Sarah F. Tobey. Ellen K. Buffum. Owen Dame, William C. Taber, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood Susan T. Thompson. George Douglass, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Richard Battey William O Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton Henry T. Wood, Thomas A. Wheeler Lydia Haight, Eli Jones Augustine Jones Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, Benj F. Knowles, Albert C. Buffum and Huldah S. Buffum.

Reasons for the absence of five of our members were received.

Our friends Edward Tatum and Rebecca Collins of New York Yearly Meeting and Caroline E. Talbott of Ohio Yearly Meeting are also acceptably in attendance of this meeting

The Committee appointed in 8th month last in behalf of a number of native Syrians then in this country, claiming the sympathy of

1882 Friends and in need of assistance have presented a further report, as follows.

To the Representative Meeting,

Your Committee appointed to extend sympathy and aid to a company of Arabs from Palestine sojourning in this country report that we have taken care in the case, and have ascertained that two of their number were connected with Friends of Ramallah, Palestine. To these Friends in Maine extended the hospitalities of their homes for ~~several~~ some four months, and also furnished them with means with which to return home. The other members of the party were kindly aided by citizens of Boston and vicinity.

For the Committee

Newport 6th mo 9. 1882. Eli Jones.

The care and sympathy thus extended to these people is satisfactory to the meeting and the Committee is released

The Committee under appointment respecting the traffic in and the use of Opium in our own and in other countries have produced a second report as follows. viz

To the Representative Meeting

The Committee on the traffic in and the use of Opium in our own and other countries - Report, that they have caused Five thousand copies of their report to the last meeting to be printed and have distributed 2000 copies of the same, sending them to nearly all the religious newspapers in the United States, to all the members of Congress, and to very many ministers of other denominations, besides sending a number to each Monthly Meeting in our Yearly Meeting. The expenses of publication were $115.-, for postage and express charges $10. making in all $125.- The Committee ask the instruction of the meeting respecting the disposition of the remaining Copies,

On behalf of the Committee,
Augustine Jones.

The Committee were requested to distribute in their discretion copies of their printed Report during the time of this Yearly Meeting and to place the copies remaining at the disposal of the next Representative meeting.

The Committee under appointment since 8th month last relative to certain individuals who had come among us without credentials for religious Service or removal certificates, now presented the following Report which was acceptable to the meeting and they are released from further care

To the Representative Meeting

Dear Friends

Your Committee on the concern of this meeting relative to Friends sojourning within our limits without proper credentials, present their report. viz that while there may be one or more of that class still among us, the Committee have not been aware of anything in their conduct or communications, whereby the cause of Truth has suffered since our appointment, and believing that the purpose for which the committee was appointed has been in large measure accomplished, they now ask to be released from further service.

On behalf of the Committee
Saml R. Buffinton
George Howland Junr.

Newport 6th mo 9. 1882

The Committee under appointment upon the subject of the legalization of military drill in the public Schools of the State of Massachusetts now reported that while no way for action had opened during the year they believed that further care might be needful in the case.
Upon consideration the Committee is now released with the apprehension that the subject may claim the attention of the next Representative meeting, should such action appear requisite in the cause of Peace.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to examine the Trusts held by the Yearly Meeting and the Securities composing the same presented their report as follows, which was read and accepted.

To the Representative Meeting;

The Committee appointed for that purpose have examined the Securities and trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting and report their condition as follows.

In the hands of George Howland Jr Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.
Twenty Shares Stock in Eagle National Bank, Providence, par value $50. each
Cash deposit in Merchants Natl Bank, New Bedford $600.—
Also for account of the School at Providence the two items following.
Deposit in New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank from sales of land $328.
Deposit in same Bank a bequest, the Philip J. Tripp Fund $2000.—
Also the "Boston Meeting house Fund" as follows.
Nine Providence Water bonds $1000. each. 5 pr ct, due in 1906.
Deposit in New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank $696.88

In the hands of Thomas Harkness Treasurer of the School Fund.
These investments represent Stocks and other Securities at a cost of

$90.166.01 belonging to the General School Fund, and also securities costing
1882 $33.138. belonging to the Charitable Fund. No change has been made in the investments during the past year. A memorandum in detail of these funds is submitted herewith.

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Bailey Trustees of the Mosher Fund

Bond of the City of Boston. Registered $10.000. due in 1905 at 5 pr cent	
Deposit in New Bedford Institution for Savings (interest paid to 4 mo 1881)	$645.20
Deposit in Lynn Institution for Savings 7 mo 30 1881	1.506. ~

While some of the above securities will require new investments during the present year, the Committee do not otherwise recommend changes on account of safety.

Owen Dame
6th mo 7. 1882. Saml R. Buffinton
Henry T. Wood . Auditors

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

Then adjourned to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Henry T. Wood, clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport 6th mo 15. 1882.

1882 By the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the same friends who constituted the Representative Meeting last year have been again appointed to that service for the year ensuing, viz: 40 members.

There were present at this time 26 members viz, Thomas Harkness, Benj F. Knowles, Sarah F. Tobey, Owen Dame, Wm C. Taber, George Howland Junr, Anna G. Wood, Susan T. Thompson, George Douglass, Elizabeth A Douglass, Richard Battey, William O. Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Thomas A. Wheeler, Abby S. Battey, Lydia Haight, Eli Jones, Eliza P. Peirce, Timothy B. Hussey, Albert C. Buffum, Anna M. Hussey, Huldah S. Buffum, Levi Jones, David K. Akin, and Joseph E. Briggs.

Henry T. Wood was appointed Clerk to the meeting for the ensuing year.

This meeting authorizes the payment ~~of~~ by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, of such bills and expenses for rent for a meeting place for Friends in Boston, during the present year, as may be necessary, and shall be approved by the Clerk of this meeting.

We are informed that Friends meeting house in Newport, belonging in part to the Yearly Meeting, is now in need of repairs. - To effect the needed repair of the portion owned by the Yearly Meeting we appoint our friends Owen Dame and Saml R. Buffinton and they are authorized to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred.

Benjamin F. Knowles in behalf of the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to confer with our friend Eli Jones respecting his contemplated visit to Europe and Syria, informed the meeting that they had given some attention to the subject, and believed it right to propose, in consideration of the advanced age of Eli Jones, that a suitable person should accompany him on the journey. He also stated, that Charles M. Jones, of Winthrop, Maine, had expressed a willingness to go as companion. Upon consideration the meeting united with this proposal and the Committee were authorized to make the needful arrangements for the journey, and to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting when necessary, for the expense incurred.

Our friends Anna M. Hussey, Sophia D. Bailey and Mary W. Jones of Winthrop are appointed to act with the Committee under appointment in the case of Eli Jones, in making the needed arrangements for the journey contemplated.

Having been informed at this time that two friends lately in attendance of the Yearly Meeting with certificates, contemplate a visit to our scattered members in the British Provinces, we appoint our friends, Levi Jones, George Douglass, Timothy B. Hussey and Henry T. Wood, a committee to confer with them upon that subject and to render such advice and assistance as they believe to be requisite.

1882
6 mo 15 It was concluded, that our regular meetings for the ensuing year should be held as follows. viz. at Lynn on Fourth day the 16th of Eighth month next at 2½ o clock in the afternoon, - at Providence on Fourth day the 31st of First month 1883 at 3 o clock in the afternoon, and at Portland on Fifth day the 7th of Sixth month at 6 o'clock, in the afternoon
8

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8th mo 16. 1882

Present at this time 18 members viz Benj F. Knowles, Joseph Cartland, Abigail M. Hanson, Gertrude W. Cartland, George Howland Junr. Anna G. Wood, Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass, Wm O. Newhall, Saml R. Buffinton, Henry T. Wood, Thomas A. Wheeler, Eliza P. Peirce, Timothy B. Hussey, Levi Jones, David K. Akin, and Owen Dame.

For the absence of six of our members, reasons have been forwarded to us.

The London General Epistle for the present year was presented and read, to our edification, and desiring that its salutary and timely contents may be extensively read, we appoint our friends Owen Dame and Wm O. Newhall to cause an edition of 3000 copies to be printed and distributed in the usual proportions to our several Quarterly meetings and the Committee is authorized to call upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred -

The Committee appointed in 6th month last to confer with two friends who it was stated, might feel drawn to visit the British Provinces, now reported that upon full consideration, the way had not opened in the minds of the friends to make the contemplated visit, and they had felt drawn into other fields of labor. The Committee is therefore released.

The subject of the introduction, by legal enactment, of military drill, into some of the public schools of Massachusetts, which claimed the attention of this meeting last year, and was referred to this meeting, was again introduced, and upon consideration it was concluded to appoint the following Friends a Committee, to whom this question should, be referred, viz Joseph Cartland, Benjamin F. Knowles, Augustine Jones George Howland Junr. Augustus F. Cox, Gertrude W. Cartland and Anna G. Wood. The committee are encouraged to embrace any opening which may be afforded them, to labor for the repeal of the law referred to, and

1882 also for the diffusion of sound Christian views upon the subject of Universal Peace,

8 mo 16 The Committee appointed by Minute 39. at our last Yearly Meeting to convey certain parcels of Real Estate in Washington. D.C. in connection with efforts to benefit the Freedmen, informed this meeting that in the settlement of these affairs it may be needful to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for about three hundred dollars. This meeting now gives authority to the Committee of Trustees to draw upon the Treasurer as above stated for the requisite sum to settle the transaction referred to.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to procure by temporary loan a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars in anticipation of the payment of the quotas of Stock called for from our several Quarterly meetings

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence 1st mo 31. 1883
Present at this time 10 members viz Benj. F. Knowles. Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland Junr. Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols Rachel B. Nichols. Timothy B. Hussey, Charles F. Coffin, David K Akin and Augustine Jones, The Clerk being absent George Howland Jr was appointed Clerk for this time. Seven of our absent members have forwarded to us reasons for their non attendance at this time.

We appoint our friends Owen Dame, Saml R. Buffinton and Henry T. Wood a Committee to examine the accounts and securities of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting, They are also authorized to consider and report whether any change appears desirable in any investments under the several Trusts.

Our friends Augustus F. Cox George Douglass, John J. Frye. Reuben T. Jones. Hannah J. Bailey, S. James Cox, Anna M. Hussey, and Timothy B. Hussey, are appointed to take the requisite care of providing homes for Friends in attendance and also to make all necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting in Portland.

This meeting is informed that a proposition has been introduced to the Legislature of Maine to restore the law providing for capital punishment in certain cases, After thoughtful consideration of the subject we conclude to appoint our friends Henry T. Wood Wm C. Taber and

George Howland Junr. to prepare a memorial to the Legislature of that State respectfully remonstrating against the passage of such a law, the paper to be signed by the Clerk of this Meeting and forwarded to our friend Timothy B. Hussey for presentation to that body.

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Portland 6th mo 7. 1883

Present 24 members. viz Benj F Knowles, Ellen K Buffum. Owen Dame, William C. Taber, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood. Augustus F. Cox, George Douglass. S. Jane Cox, Elizabeth A. Douglass, Wm O. Newhall. Henry T. Wood. Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones. Rachel B. Nichols, Timothy B. Hussey. Albert C. Buffum Anna M. Hussey. David K Akin, Augustine Jones. Jacob K Purinton, Joseph E Briggs Lydia Haight and Huldah S. Buffum.

Reasons for the absence of four of our number were assigned

The Committee appointed in 6th month last to effect the needed repair of that portion of the meeting house in Newport. belonging to the Yearly meeting presented the following report, which was read, viz.

To the Representative Meeting.

We your Committee appointed to cause the necessary repairs to be made upon the meeting house, at Newport. have attended to our appointment by causing a portion of the roof to be newly shingled and the outside of the house and the blinds in the womens meeting room. each to be painted with two coats of paint, at a cost of $408.50/100 - which sum has been received by us from the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting and appropriated to the payment of the expense aforesaid

signed / Owen Dame
6th mo 1. 1883. Saml R. Buffinton, Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the meeting and the Committee is released from further care.

The Committee appointed in 8th Month last with reference to the introduction, by Legislative enactment, of military drill into some of the public schools of Massachusetts, and to labor should way open for it for the repeal of the law, reported no action upon the subject during the past year.

In releasing the Committee from their appointment we desire to commend the subject to the thoughtful consideration of Friends of this Yearly Meeting

457 The Committee appointed to examine the several Securities and Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting presented the following report which was read, and is satisfactory to the meeting.

1883.

To the Representative Meeting

The Auditors have examined the Securities and Trust funds held by the Yearly Meeting and report their condition as follows;

In the hands of George Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

20 shares Stock in Eagle Natl Bank of Providence par value $50. each

Deposit in Five Cent Savings Bank New Bedford $600.–

Also for account of the School at Providence the two items following; –

Deposit in Five Cent Savings Bank from sale of land —— $342.07

Deposit in same Bank the Philip J. Tripp fund $2000.–

Also the Boston meeting house fund – viz –

Nine Providence water bonds, 5 pct $1000. each due in 1906

Deposit in N. Bedford Five Cent Savings Bank $797.14

Also the Elizabeth Fry fund viz: –

Ten bonds Chicago Burlington & Quincy R Road 4 pct $1000 each due 1922.

Five bonds N York, Lackawanna & Western R Road 6 pct $1000 each due 1921

Five bonds Chicago & No Western R Road 6 per cent $1000 each due 1929

Ten bonds Chicago St Louis & N Orleans R Road 5 pr gold bonds $1000. each due 1951

Deposit in New Bedford Five Cent Savings Bank $138.50

In the hands of Thomas Harkness Treasurer of the School Fund: –

These investments represent Stocks and other securities at a cost of $90.203.38 belonging to the School Fund, – and also securities costing $33.138.– belonging to the Charitable Fund – A memorandum in detail of these funds is herewith submitted. No change has been made in these funds during the year except a few necessary re-investments,

In hands of Chs F. Coffin & Chs M. Bailey trustees of the Mosher Fund; —

Bond of the City of Boston registered 5 pct $10.000. – due 1905.

Deposit in N Bedford Institution for Savings $701.16

do in Lynn Institution for Savings $1684.46

In hands of Benj F. Knowles for trustees of the George Sturge Fund

Twenty five consolidated first mortgage bonds Pennsylvania R R. 6 pr ct £200. each due 1905. coupons payable 1st mo 1 and 7 mo 1.

We would recommend the investment of the Philip J. Tripp fund during the present year

Signed Owen Dame

6th mo 5. 1883 Henry T. Wood

for the Committee

The committee appointed in 2d month last to memorialize the Legislature of
1883 the State of Maine with reference to its proposed enactment to restore Capital punishment for crime, now reported their attention to the subject, - and that a memorial was prepared for presentation to that Body as directed - We are also informed that the paper was laid before the Maine Legislature in due course. Upon reflection while we regret the passage of the law restoring the gallows in that State, we believe the step taken by this meeting was a right one, and the action of the Committee is approved.

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting -

Adjourned to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Henry T Wood Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held in Portland 6th mo 14. 1883.

The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting informs us in writing that the following named friends are appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year - viz (38 members.) - Benjamin F. Knowles, William C. Taber, Charles M. Bailey, Sophia D. Bailey, Richard Battey, Sarah F. Tobey, Ellen K. Buffum, Enoch Hoag, George Howland Jr, Augustine Jones, Wm. Thompson, Henry T. Wood, Rachel B. Nichols, George Douglass, Wm. O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Charles Taber, Lydia Haight, S. Jane Cox, Anna G. Wood, Hannah J. Bailey, Augustus F. Cox, Jacob K. Purinton, Anthony M. Kimber, David K. Akin, James H. Chase, Saml R. Buffinton, Mary W. Collins, Reuben T. Jones, Timothy B. Husse Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Gulielma Thorndike, Huldah S. Buffu Susan T. Thompson, Alfred H. Jones, Harriette D. Collins and Owen Dame,

There were present at this time 20 members, viz, Benj F. Knowles Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland Jr. Wm Thompson, Henry T. Woo Rachel B. Nichols, George Douglass, Wm O. Newhall, Lydia Haight, Hannah J. Bailey, Anthony M. Kimber, David K. Akin, Samuel R. Buffinton, Reuben T. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, Eli Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Susan T. Thompson, Owen Dame, and Augustus F. Cox.

Henry T. Wood is appointed Clerk to the meeting for the ensuing year.

The following communication from the Preparative meeting of Friends held in the City of Boston has been received and read

1883

6mo 14

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting.

This meeting wishes you to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars in addition to the amount paid for rent of Wesleyan Hall, from the income of the Boston meeting house fund and pay the same to our Treasurer Olney T. Meader, - said one hundred dollars is to be used in part payment for rent of Highland Hall, Boston, where a mission meeting is now being held by Friends. this meeting being willing to pay the balance forty four dollars;

Extracted from the minutes of Boston Preparative meeting of Friends held 5th mo 2. 1883

Signed, Hiram V. Gould, Clerk.

Note - This amount $144. covers only the expense for rent of the Hall for the current calender year. H. V. Gould.

Upon consideration this meeting concludes to authorize the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to pay such bills as may be found needful to provide for a place of meeting for Friends in Boston (not exceeding $400. for the current year) and which may be approved by the Clerk of

It was concluded that our regular meetings for the ensuing year should be held as follows. viz, at Lynn on Fourth day the 15th of eighth month at 2½ o'clock in the afternoon, - at Providence on Fourth day the 6th of Second month 1884. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. and at Newport on Fifth day the 12th of Sixth month at 8 o'clock in the evening

The meeting then adjourned

At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8th mo 15. 1883.

Present at this time 16 members viz, William C. Taber, Geo Howland Jr. Wm. Thompson, George Douglass, Wm. O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Charles Taber, Lydia Haight, S. Jane Cox, Anthony M. Kimber Saml R. Buffinton Eli Jones, Harriette D. Collins, Owen Dame, Mary W. Collins, and Timothy B. Hussey.

Reasons for the non attendance of Seven of our members have been received.

The Clerk being absent Owen Dame is appointed Clerk for this time.

The London General Epistle for the present year was presented and read to our edification and it is directed that 3000 copies be printed for distribution in the usual proportions to our several Quarterly Meetings and our friends Wm. O Newhall and Owen Dame are appointed to that service, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the necessary expense.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars in anticipation of the receipt of the quotas called for by that meeting from the several Quarterly Meetings.

The law enacted by the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1881 authorizing the introduction of Military Drill in some of the public schools of that State has again claimed the attention of this meeting and it was concluded again to refer the subject to a Committee who are requested to labor as they may find opportunity for the repeal of the law referred to. Our friends Benj. F. Knowles, Augustine Jones, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Augustus F. Cox Harriette D. Collins, Saml R. Buffinton and Owen Dame were appointed to this service.

The meeting then adjourned

Owen Dame
Clerk this time.

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence R.I. 2nd Mo 6th 1884.

The Clerk of this Meeting, our late beloved friend Henry T. Wood having been removed by death, Timothy B. Hussey was appointed Clerk for the remainder of the year. Present at this time 16 members - viz.- Benjamin F. Knowles, Richard Battey, Sarah F. Tobey, Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland Jr. Augustine Jones, William Thompson, William O. Newhall, Charles F. Coffin, Hannah J. Baily, Anthony M. Kimber, Samuel R. Buffinton, Timothy B. Hussey, Susan T. Thompson, Harriette D. Collins, and Owen Dame.

Reasons for the non attendance of four of our members have been received.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Military drill in some of the public schools in Massachusetts, presented the following draft of a petition, which is satisfactory to this Meeting viz.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled -

over.

The Representative Meeting of the Society of Friends acting for and in behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, respectfully represent that they believe that the only just method of settlement in international and other disputes is by arbitration and Courts; that the tendency of the age is strongly towards the recognition of this method; that war is a barbarism inconsistent with the teaching of Christianity and unworthy of a christian State, that it is a matter of the very highest importance, what subjects shall be taught in the public schools of the State, that Chapter one hundred and ninety three of the acts of the year Eighteen hundred & Eighty one providing for military drill in the public schools, is a retrograde step, tending by its very presence on the Statute books to encourage and stimulate the war spirit, that they recognise with grateful hearts, the careful guarding in the law of conscientious scruples, and they petition with greater assurance, because they themselves are exempted under its provisions—

They, therefore, respectfully ask that you will repeal the above named Statute.

The Clerk was authorized to sign this on behalf of the Meeting, and the Committee now under appointment were directed to present the same to the Legislature of the State aforesaid and report to our next Meeting.

The committee appointed in the 8th mo. last to procure a reprint of the London General Epistle of last year reported attention to the duty as directed—

We appoint our friends Samuel R. Buffinton, Anthony M. Kimber, Mary A. Gifford, Ellen K. Buffum, Mary W. Jones of Newport, and William Sherman a committee to provide homes for Friends in attendance, and to make the necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport.

We appoint our friends Owen Dame, Samuel R. Buffinton and Charles Taber a committee to examine the accounts and securities of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting, They are also authorized to consider and report whether any change appears desirable in any investments under the several Trusts—

The Meeting then adjourned— Timothy B. Hussey Clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport R.I. 6th Month 12th 1884.

Present at this time 20 members viz—
Benjamin F. Knowles, Richard Battey, George Howland Jr. Augustine Jones, William Thompson, George Douglass, William O. Newhall, Charles Taber, Hannah J. Bailey, S. Jane Cox, Augustus F. Cox, Jacob K. Purinton, Anthony M. Kimber, Samuel R. Buffinton Reuben T. Jones Eli Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, Harriette D. Collins and Owen Dame.

Reasons for the absence of 2 of our members were received. Our Friend Aquila H. Pickering of Western Yearly Meeting was also acceptably with us.

The committee appointed to present the Memorial on the subject of military drill, to the Legislature of Massachusetts, reported that the petition was duly presented — respectfully received and referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee was released from further service.

The Committee appointed at our last meeting to examine the several Trusts held by the Yearly Meeting and the securities composing the same presented their report, which was read and accepted. Viz

To the Representative Meeting—

The Auditors have examined the Securities and Trust Funds belonging to the Yearly Meeting and report their condition as follows;— In the hands of George Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting 20 Shares of Stock in Eagle National Bank of Providence par value $50.00 each Deposit in New Bedford Five cents Saving Bank $600.

Also for the account of the School at Providence — Deposit in the Five Cents Savings Bank, New Bedford proceeds of sale of land with accumulated interest —	$357.64
Also the Philip J. Tripp fund — viz.—	
1 Bond, Chicago & North Western R.R. Co 6%	$1.000.00
1 Bond Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R.R. Co. 4%	1000.
Deposit in New Bedford Five Cent Saving Bank	$ 79.30
	$2.079.30
Also the Boston Meeting House — viz—	
9 City of Providence 5% Water Bonds due in 1906	$9.000.
Deposit in New Bedford 5ct Savings Bank	$ 884.13
	$9.884.13
Also the Elizabeth Frye Fund viz.	

10 Bonds, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R.R. 4% $1.000 each due in—

over

463 — Continued -

in 1922	$10.000.
5 Bonds. New York. Lackawanna & Western Rail R. 6% $1000. each due in 1921	5.000.
5 Bonds Chicago & N. Western R.R. Co 6% 1000. each due in 1929	5.000.
10 Bonds Chicago. St. Louis & N. Orleans R.R. 5% gold $1000 ea due in 1951	10.000
Deposit in New Bedford Five cents Saving Bank	138.50
	$30.138.50

In the hands of Thomas Harkness Treasurer of the School Fund. -

The general School Fund consisting of Bank Stocks and other Securities at a cost of $90.203.38 and the Charitable Fund similarly invested costing $33.138.00

The income from these funds the past year has been $6\frac{84}{100}$ per cent. as will appear from a memorandum in detail herewith presented.

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Baily - Trustees of the Mosher Fund - viz -

1 Bond of the City of Boston - registered - 5% due in 1905 for	$10.000.
Deposit in New Bedford ~~Five cents~~ Institution for Savings ~~Bank~~	733.04
Deposit in Lynn Institution for Savings	1.772.23
	$12.505.27

In the hands of Benj F. Knowles for the Trustees of the George Sturge Fund viz

25 Consolidated 1st Mortgage Bonds - Pennsylvania Railway 6% £200 each due in 1905 coupons payable 1st Mo. 1st and 7th Month 1st	£ 5000.-

No change is recommended in any of the investments -

Newport 6th Mo. 12th 1884

(Signed) Owen Dame.
Samuel R. Buffinton
Charles Taber.

By a communication from George H. Phillips of Holliston, Mass. we were informed that in consequence of some defects in the title of certain property in Washington, D.C. conveyed to him by N.E. Yearly Meeting he was subjected to an expense of $34.75

Believing it right to refund that amount this Meeting authorises the Treas. of the Yearly Meeting to forward to him the aforesaid amount.

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

The Meeting then adjourned, to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting

Timothy B. Hussey, Clerk -

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport. R. I.
6th Month 19th 1884.

We are informed by the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year. Viz. Benjamin F. Knowles. William C. Taber. Charles M. Baily - Sophia D. Baily, Richard Battey, Sarah F. Tobey, Ellen K. Buffum, Enoch Hoag, George Howland Jr. Augustine Jones, William Thompson Rachel B. Nichols, George Douglass, William O. Newhall Charles F. Coffin, Charles Taber. Lydia Haight. Hannah J. Baily. S. Jane Cox. Anna G. Wood. Augustus F. Cox, Jacob K. Purinton, Anthony M. Kimber, David K. Akin, James H. Chase. Samuel R. Buffinton, Mary W. Collins, Reuben T. Jones Timothy B. Hussey. Eli Jones. Thomas B. Nichols - Gulielma M. Thorndike, Huldah S. Buffum, Susan T. Thompson Susan T. Thompson Alfred H. Jones, Harriette D. Collins Owen Dame, John F. Chase, Olney T. Meader and William H. Cates.

Whose names being called there were present 21 Members viz:- Benj. F. Knowles, William C. Taber. Richard Battey. Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland Jr. William Thompson - George Douglas. William O. Newhall, Hannah J. Baily. Anna G. Wood, Jacob K. Purinton Anthony M. Kimber. David K. Akin, Reuben T. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey. Eli Jones, Susan T. Thompson Harriette D. Collins - ~~and~~ Owen Dame, John F. Chase and Olney T. Meader.

Timothy B. Hussey was appointed Clerk to this Meeting for the ensuing Year,

It was concluded that the regular Meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows Viz-

At Lynn on Fourth day the 20th of 8th Month at 2½ o'clock in the afternoon-

At Providence on Fourth day the 4th of 2nd Month 1885, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon - and at Portland on Fifth day the 11th of 6th Month 8 P.M. 1885, The Treas. of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars it being the provision for a place for a Meeting for worship. for ~~members~~ Friends in Boston for this year 1884 - The Meeting then adjourned -

Timothy B. Hussey - Clerk,

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn 8th Month 20th 1884
Present 24 Members Viz:-

Benj F. Knowles, William C. Taber Richard Battey Ellen K. Buffum George Howland Jr. William Thompson, George Douglas. William O. Needham Charles Taber, S. Jane Cox, Anna G. Wood, Augustus F. Cox- Anthony M. Kimber, David K. Akin, Samuel R. Buffinton Reuben T. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, Eli Jones, Susan T. Thompson Harriette D. Collins, Owen Dame, John F. Chase, Olney T. Meader

Reasons were given for the absence of one of our members. The London General Epistle of the present year was received and read to our edification and it is directed that 3000.- copies be printed for distribution in the usual proportions to our several Quarterly Meetings, and our Friends Owen Dame and William O. Needham are appointed to that service and they are authorised to draw upon the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the necessary expenses-

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorised to borrow a sum not exceeding 3000. in anticipation of the receipts of the quotas called for by that Meeting from our several Quarterly Meetings

Our Friends Samuel R. Buffinton, Owen Dame, Anthony M. Kimber, Ellen K. Buffum and Susan T. Thompson, in conjunction with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, were appointed to make all necessary alterations and repairs, and take the care of our Meeting House and other property in Newport R.I, the ensuing year, and they are authorised to draw on the Treas. of the Yearly Meeting for our proportion of the expense incurred-

Our Friends George Douglas, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Reuben T. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey- Hannah J. Baily, Huldah H. Leighton and Mary B. Johnson were appointed to take the requisite care of providing homes for Friends in attendance and also to make all necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Portland, Me,

This Meeting was unanimously agreed to authorize and empower Thomas Harkness, Treasurer of the School Fund, to sign all necessary papers to so amend the articles of Association of the several Banks following Viz-
The National Union Bank of Woonsocket at Woonsocket R.I,
The Rhode Island National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I,
The Providence National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I

(Continued above on n

The Merchants National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I.
The Pacific National Bank of Pawtucket at Pawtucket R.I.
The National Exchange Bank of Providence at Providence R.I.
The American National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I.
The Manufacturers National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I.
and the Mechanics National Bank of Providence at Providence R.I.
as to enable said Banks - each - to extend its corporate existence twenty years from the time of its expiration under its present limitation agreeably with the act of Congress approved Seventh Month twelfth 1882 and the said Thomas Harkness is hereby authorized and empowered to sign, seal, execute and deliver all needful instruments and papers in the name and behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in the execution of the aforesaid power and authority.

This Meeting also unanimously agreed to ratify and confirm the action of Thomas Harkness, Treasurer of the School Fund, in signing all necessary papers to so amend the Sixth Article of the Articles of Association of the Phoenix National Bank of Providence at Providence, R.I, as to enable said Bank to extend its corporate existence twenty years from the time of its expiration, under its present limitation, agreeably with the Act of Congress approved Seventh Month twelfth 1882, and the said acts of said Thomas Harkness are hereby ratified and made valid in all respects. And he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign, seal, execute and deliver, all needful papers in the name and behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in the execution of the aforesaid ratification power and authority.

The subjects of War and the taking of Oaths, claiming our serious consideration we appoint our Friends Augustine Jones Charles Taber, William O Newhall, Susan T. Thompson George Howland Jr Owen Dame and Harriette D. Collins a committee to prepare an Essay upon each of the above subjects and present them at our next Meeting

The Meeting then adjourned:-

Timothy B. Hussey. Clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence R.I.
Second Month - 4th A.D. 1885
Present at this time 15 Members Viz
Benjamin F. Knowles, Richard Battey. Sarah F. Tobey- Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland Jr. Augustine Jones. William O. Newhall Charles F. Coffin, Hannah J. Bailey Anna G. Wood. Samuel R. Buffinton Timothy B. Hussey. Owen Dame and Olney T. Meader.

Reasons for the non attendance of one of our Members have been received.

The Committee appointed in the 8th Mo last to prepare Essays upon the subjects of War and the taking of Oaths not being ready to report are continued.

The Committee to procure a reprint and the distribution of the London General Epistle of last year report the service accomplished-

We appoint our Friends Owen Dame, Samuel R. Buffinton and Charles Taber a committee to examine the accounts and securities of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting. They are also authorised to consider and report whether any change appears desirable in any investments under the several Trusts.

The Meeting then adjourned

Timothy B. Hussey. Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held at Portland Me.
Sixth Month 11th 1885.

Present at this time 27 members. Viz;
Benjamin F. Knowles, Richard Battey, Ellen K. Buffum
George Howland Jr. Augustine Jones. William Thompson
Rachel B. Nichols George Douglass. William O. Newhall,
Charles Taber, Lydia Haight. Hannah J. Bailey, S. Jane
Cox Anna G. Wood, Augustus F. Cox, Anthony M. Kimber
Mary H. Collins Reuben T. Jones. Timothy B. Hussey
Eli Jones. Thomas B. Nichols. Susan T. Thompson,
Alfred H. Jones. Owen Dame, John F. Chase and
Olney T. Meader.

Reasons for the absence of one of our members were received.

Our Friends Caroline E. Talbot from Ohio Yearly Meeting and Mary Ann Potter from New York Yearly Meeting are also acceptably in the attendance of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed to prepare essays upon the subjects of War and the taking of Oaths. verbally reported that they had given the subjects much thought but are not prepared at this time to offer essays upon these important subjects.

After weightily considering the matter this Meeting is united in referring the subjects to the next Representative Meeting.

The attention of this Meeting being called to the fact of the need of a reprint of a few copies of the Charter of this Yearly Meeting, the subject is referred to the next Representative Meeting.

The Committee appointed at our last Meeting to examine the trusts held by the Yearly Meeting and the securities composing them ~~presented~~ their report xx which is as follows Viz; #which was read and accepted.

To the Representative Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the Second Month last to examine the securities and Trust-funds belonging to the Yearly Meeting have given attention to the same and now submit the following report Viz

Viz -

41 To the Representative Meeting

The Committee appointed in Second Month last to examine the Securities and Trust Funds belonging to the Yearly Meeting have given attention to the same and now submit the following report viz:

They find in the hands of George Howland Jr Treasurer, Yearly Meeting funds consisting of 20 shares of Stock in Eagle National Bank of Providence - par value - $50 ea. $1,000
Deposit in New Bedford 5c Savings Bank 600
Also in the same hands for the account of the Land at Providence - a deposit in New Bedford Five cents Savings Bank, it being the balance of proceeds of the sale of land, with accumulated interest $373.85
Also in the same hands School money 2622.66
Also the Philip J. Tripp fund viz:
A Chicago & N. W. Railway Co 6% Bond 1000.00
A Chicago B & Q. R.R. Co 4% Bond 1000.00
Deposit in N. B. 5ct Saving Bank Book #37876 $183.45
$2183.45
Also
The Boston Meeting House fund viz:
9 City of Providence Water Bonds $1000. ea. $9000.00
Deposit in N. B. Five Cents Saving Bank 1026.92
10026.92
Also
The Elizabeth Fry fund viz:
5 N. Y. Lackawana & Western R.R. Bonds 6% $5000.00
5 Chicago & N. W. Railway Co Bonds 6% 5000.00
10 Chicago & B. & Q. " " 4% 10000.00
10 St. Louis & N. O. Gold " 5% 10.000.00
Deposit in N. B. 5ct Saving Bank book #35725 151.34
$30151.34
In the hands of Thomas Hawkins Treasurer of the School fund viz:
The General School fund consisting of Bank Stocks and other securities and Cash at a cost of $100,010.33
and the Charitable fund similarly invested at a cost of 33138.00
The revenue from these Funds the past year has been 8151.86 as shown by the Treasurers Statement in detail herewith submitted.

The General Fund is increased over the amount reported last year $9806.95 being profit on the sale of Bank Stock and received for sale of land —

Continued up

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Baily
Trustees of the Moshir Fund viz.

A registered 5% Gold Bond of the City of Boston due A.D. 1905	$10,000.00
Deposit in N. B. Institution for Savings	766.38
" " Lynn " "	$1863.61
	$12629.99

In the hands of Benjamin F. Knowles for the Trustees of
of the George Sturge Fund viz.

25 Consolidated 1st Mortgage Bonds Pennsylvania Railroad 6% £200. each due in A.D. 1905	$25000.00

We recommend that all Securities belonging to the School at Providence be placed in the hands of the Treasurer of the School Funds

Portland 6/11 1885 (signed)

Owen Dame
Samuel R. Buffinton
Charles Taber.

The Clerk is directed to lay the Records of this meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting.

The Meeting then concluded - purposing to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held in Portland, Me. Sixth Month 17th 1885.

Timothy B. Hussey was appointed Clerk to this Meeting for the ensuing year.

We are informed by the clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year viz; Samuel R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Lydia C. Neal, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones. Esther Jones, Richard Battey. Mary A. Battey Alfred H. Jones, Elizabeth K. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey. Anna M. Hussey J. Warren Hawkes, Hannah J. Baily. William O. Newhall James O. Inman. Benjamin F. Knowles, Charles F. Coffin. Thomas Harkness- Gertrude W. Cartland, Anthony M. Kimber, Augustine Jones- Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Sarah F. Toby, William Thompson Susan T. Thompson, Olney T. Meader. Daniel C. Maxfield, George Douglass, Louisa N. Meader, Isaac Stire Susan S. Tripp, Levi Jones. Myra E. Frye. Harriette D. Collins, and John J. Frye,

Whose names being called there were present Thirty Members. Viz Samuel R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Lydia C. Neal. George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones. Esther Jones, Richard Battey, Mary A. Battey, Elizabeth K. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey. Anna M. Hussey, William O. Newhall, Hannah J. Baily Benjamin F. Knowles. Anthony M. Kimber Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, William Thompson, Susan T. Thompson. Olney T. Meader. Daniel C. Maxfield, George Douglass. Louisa N. Meader, Isaac Stire, Susan S. Tripp. Levi Jones, Myra E. Frye & John J. Frye.

It was concluded that our regular Meeting for the ensuing year should be held as follows Viz;

At Lynn on Fourth day 8th Mo 19 1885 at 2,30 P.M.,
At Providence Fourth day 2nd Mo 3d 1886 at 3- P.M.,
At Newport Fifth day 6th Mo 10th 1886 at 8- P.M.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorised to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall $350.00 it being the provision for a place for a Meeting for Worship for Friends in Boston for the year 1885- Our Friends Augustine Jones Thomas Harkness and George Howland Jr. were appointed a Comtee to cause a reprint of such a number of copies of the Charter of our Yearly Meeting

(Continued up)

as in their judgement may seem desirable, and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred, and report at a future Meeting-

[Our Friends Samuel R. Buffinton Owen Dame, Anthony M. Kimber, Ellen K. Buffum and Susan T. Thompson, to act in conjunction with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, were appointed to make all necessary alterations and repairs for the accomodation of the Yearly Meeting and take the care of our Meeting House and other property in Newport, R. I. the ensuing year, and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The subjects of War and the taking of oaths claiming our serious consideration we appoint our Friends Augustine Jones William O. Newhall, Susan T. Thompson George Howland Jr. Owen Dame and Harriette D. Collins a committee to prepare an Essay upon each of these subjects and present them at a future Meeting.

The attention of this meeting being called to a request received from the Episcopal Church, for the use of our Meeting House in Newport R. I. while their House was undergoing repairs, this Meeting is united in referring the whole subject to the Committee now under appointment [for repairs and care of Meeting House] to act in the premises-

The Meeting then adjourned -

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk.

At a Representative Meeting held at Lynn Eighth Month 19th 1885.

Present 33 Members viz-
Samuel R. Buffinton, Owen Dame Lydia C. Neal, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones- Esther Jones. Richard Battey, Mary A Battey. Alfred H. Jones Elizabeth K. Jones Timothy B. Hussey- Anna M. Hussey J. Warren Hawkes. William O. Newhall. James O. Inman. Benj. F. Knowles. Charles F. Coffin Gertrude W Cartland Anthony M. Kimber, Augustine Jones. Augustus F. Cox. S. Jane Cox. William Thompson. Olney T. Meader. Daniel C. Maxfield, George Douglas, Louisa N. Meader. Isaac Stone Levi Jones. Myra E. Frye Harriette D. Collins and John J. Frye.

For the absence of four members satisfactory reasons were assigned-

We have also acceptably in attendance of this Meeting our dear friend Thomas Kimber from New York Yearly Meeting.

The London General Epistle for the present year was presented and read to our edification and it is directed that 3000. copies be printed for distribution in the usual proportion to our several Quarterly Meetings and our Friends William O. Newhall and Owen Dame are appointed a committee for that service and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the necessary expense.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding Three thousand Dollars in anticipation of the receipt of the quotas called for by that Meeting from the several Quarterly Meetings

This Meeting directs the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to pass over all funds and securities belonging to the Boarding School at Providence, now held by him, to the Treas. of the School Fund, in accordance with the recommendation of the auditing Committee approved by this Meeting- The subject of our title to the Maryville Institute property claiming our attention we refer the whole subject with power to act to our friends Benj. F. Knowles Augustine Jones & Charles F. Coffin and to report to a future Meeting

By the following communication and extract from the Will of the late Henry Camps deceased, we are informed that he bequeathed a certain sum of money for the benefit of "the Freedmens' Normal Institute, Maryville East Tennessee" formerly "under the care of the Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends" and by it transferred to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

Whereupon this Meeting authorizes the Treas. of the Yearly Meeting to receive said bequest and receipt to the Executors of said Will for the same.

Bristol 2 mo 26th 1885.

Dear Friends

Estate of Henry Camps decd.

We are requested by the Executors to write you in reference to this Estate and may say that the Testator died on the 22nd of 8th month 1884 and that his Will was proved on the 17th of 10th month 1884 by the Widow Maria Camps, Chas E. Walduck, Wm ?. Mendham & our J. T. Grace the Exors therein named at a net value of the Personal Estate under £16,500.

Henry Camps bequeathed the sum of "£1,000 unto and equally between the three following American Charitable Institutions namely The Freedmens' Normal Institute, Maryville, East Tennessee under the care of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends; The American Missionary Association, New York; and the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in the State of Virginia"—

His Will further declares "that in case any question shall arise as to the identity of any Institution to which I have hereinbefore given a Legacy such question shall be finally decided by my Executors or Executor or a majority in number of them, and I declare that all Duty upon Legacies hereinbefore given shall be paid out of my Residuary Estate."

475 We are sorry to say the amount of Personal Estate rendered it impossible to pay all the Legacies in full and the facts of the case are that the Testator had overestimated by a considerable sum the gross value of his Property — then also shortly before his death had purchased additional Realty, which is specifically bequeathed to his Widow, whilst at the same time the value of his Shares in a Limited Banking Company had seriously declined.— The following extract from his Will thus became important "And I declare that in case my estate shall be insufficient to pay in full the Legacies hereinbefore given, then all Legacies given to relatives and friends of mine with all duty thereon shall have priority of all Charitable Legacies and duty thereon."

Under these circumstances the Exors had a Case prepared and submitted to an eminent Counsel (H. H. Cozens Hardy Q.C.) for their guidance in the distribution of the Personal Estate — he advises that the Testators direction for abatement applies only to the Legacies which are directed to be paid, as distinct from Legacies of Shares which are to be transferred.— He further says "I think all the general Charitable Legacies including the duty on specific legacies and including the Legacy to the Band of Hope Union, abate rateably without any priority between them."

The Exors have decided to distribute the Estate in accordance with this Opinion, & have paid the legacies to individuals, and transferred Shares specifically bequeathed to Societies, but as it is likely to be many months before the Estate can be closed by a division of the Balance to your Society & others (who are practically the Residuary Legatees) we have been directed to inform you of these details, & shall be glad to afford you other information if you desire—

The Probate, Case & Opinion can be seen here by anyone authorized to call on your behalf.—

There are contingent liabilities of the Estate which cannot be definitely ascertained before 11th or 12th month next — some of the Investments are at present entirely unsaleable and others can only be realized at a considerable depreciation.

We are giving best attention to the above matters but as considerable delay must occur before we can offer to pay your share of the Residue in lieu of the amount bequeathed to your Society, it has been thought right thus to advise you of the position of the Estate

Signed Yours sincerely
James & Henry Grace

To the Treasurer & Committee of
The Freedmens' Normal Institute
Maryville
East Tennessee
under the care of Indiana Y. M. of Friends.

The Meeting then concluded - proposing to meet at Providence in the 2nd mo next
Timothy B Hussey Clerk

477 At a Representative Meeting held in Providence Second Month 3d 1886 —

Present at this time 28 Members Viz —
Samuel R. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame. Lydia C. Neal, George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones, Esther Jones, Richard Battey, Mary A. Battey, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, William O. Newhall James O. Inman, Benj. F. Knowles, Charles F. Coffin Thomas Harkness, Anthony M. Kimber, Augustine Jones. Augustus F. Cox, Sarah F. Tobey, William Thompson. Olney T. Meader Daniel C. Maxfield. Louisa N. Meader. Isaac Steere Myra E. Frye, and Harriette D. Collins —

For the absence of 5 of our members, satisfactory reasons were assigned.

By the following communication from the Executors of of the Estate of the late Henry Camps decd we are informed that our share by the provisions of said Will amounts to about £150.

Whereupon this Meeting authorises the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to receive said abated sum as set forth in the foregoing communication and receipt to the Exors of said Will for the same — Viz — —

Dear Friend

(Subject
Henry Camps decd)

Our correspondance with Friends of Indiana Y.M. has has informed us of the transfer of the Normal Institute — Maryville Tenn. to the care and management of New England Yearly Meeting — B.F. Knowles has given us as thy name as Treasurer of the Y.M, and he promised us that your Representative Meeting would send us a Minute of authority to the Treasurer to take a legacy and give needful discharge to Executors, but we have not received the document. The particulars furnished of the Estate of Henry Camps deceased, have no doubt been handed to your Meeting and we now write to say that the debts and legacies have been discharged as proposed under the opinion of Counsel — The Residuary account has been sent to our Inland Revenue Department in usual course and will we expect — be shortly passed — and the Duty paid thereon — We shall then be prepared to sell the remaining securities and pay the Charitable Legacies in the abated proportions needful: if no unforeseen difficulty arises, we have enough to pay about nine shillings in the pound to the several Societies named which will give about £150- to your share - Enclosed is form which we shall be glad if thou wilt sign and return to us with the Minute of your Representative Meeting including the terms suggested in our letter of 20th of Fifth Mo 1885 as early as possible, as the assent of all the Societies is essential before we can distribute the Residuary Estate to them -

Since our former letter the condition of the Securities left by the Testator has not improved - One of the companies has gone into liquidation and the Executors have had to pay a sum of money to get rid of liabilities in another company so that the nine shillings in the pound is as much as could be expected under the circumstances -

If you desire to inspect the documents and accounts of the Estate we shall be glad to show the fullest particulars to any one on this side of the Ocean calling here with your authority -

We may say that the English Societies interested have all practically assented to the terms proposed, and will be waiting for your reply to the same effect which we hope to receive shortly.

Thine very truly (signed)
James & Henry Grace

George Howland, Jr.
New Bedford Mass.

(copy)

Henry Camps of Bristol England decd

In reference to the Legacy of One third of one thousand pounds bequeathed by the will of the above Testator to the Freedmens Normal Institute at Maryville East Tenn, under the care of Indiana Y.M. of Friends:- We hereby certify that such Institute has been some time since transferred to the care and management of our Yearly Meeting of New England and is now our property and under our control:- We hereby accept the offer of the Executors to divide the Estate according to Counsels Opinion given thereon in consequence of the assets

117° having proved insufficient to pay all the legacies in full. The opinion having stated that the Societies named in the Will to whom Legacies are to be paid must abate ratably in the division of the Residue of the Estate between them - we assent to that arrangement and request the Executors to send us the form of discharge required to be signed by our Treasurer for the amount coming to us. probably about nine shillings in the pound on the above sum, when we will advise them as to mode of remittance -

(Seal of Y.M.) On behalf of the Trustees of the Freedmens Normal Institute Maryville Tenn.

Treasurer of New England Y. Mo.

P.S. A Minute of this Meeting sent to James & Henry Grace Exrs

It seems by the letters received from the Executors that they understand that this Trust will be held by personal Trustees, and they have so drawn the receipt for this Meeting to execute; but such is not the ~~case~~ fact

When Trustees are not named in the Will or Deed creating the Trust, the corporation known as the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England takes and holds directly for the uses and Trusts named in the deed or Will.

The Committee to cause a reprint and distribution of 3000 copies of the London General Epistle of last year report the service accomplished as directed.

The Committee to prepare Essays upon the subjects of War and the taking of Oaths presented the following upon the subject of Oaths which was read and approved and we appoint our Friends Augustine Jones. Owen Dame, William O. Newhall and Benj. F. Knowles - a Committee to cause an edition of 5000 copies to be printed and distributed as in their judgement may seem best. and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred -

The committee to procure a reprint of the Charters, granted by the States of Rhode Island and Maine to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England - report that two hundred copies have been printed. Whereupon this Meeting directs a sufficient number of copies be furnishe the Clerks of all of our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings for preservation and the balance be placed in the hands of the Clerk of this Meeting -

We appoint our Friends Owen Dame, James O. Inman and Samuel R. Buffinton to examine the accounts and securities of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting. They are also authorized to report whether the change authorized by this Meeting in relation to the transfer of the School Funds from the hands of the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting to the hands of the Treasurer of the School Funds, has been accomplished; also to report any change that appears desirable in any investment under the several Trusts -

We appoint our Friends Samuel R. Buffinton Anthony M. Kimber, Mary Alice Gifford, Mary H. Jones, Stephen Chase Rachel Anthony, Owen Dame and Joanna Sophia Buffum a Committee to provide homes for Friends in attendance and to make the necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting at Newport,

The Treas. of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall from the income of of the Boston Meeting House Fund the sum of Fifty dollars -

The meeting then concluded

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held at Newport, R. I. Sixth month 10th 1886. Present 31 Members viz
Samuel R. Buffinton Ellen R. Buffum Oren Dame. Lydia C. Neal George Howland Jr. Anna G. Hood Reuben S. Jones Esther Jones Richard Batty Mary A. Batty. Elizabeth H. Jones Timothy B. Hussey. S. Anna Hawkes. Hannah E. Bailey. Wm C. Newhall James C. Sumner Benj F. Knowles. Thomas Harkness. Anthony McKimber Augustine Jones. Augustus F. Cox S. Jane Cox. William Thompson Cary T. Mendel. Daniel C. Hayfield. George Douglass Louisa A. Mendel Isaac Stone. Myra E. Frye and Wm J. Frye.

We have also acceptably in attendance of this Meeting our dear friends Jonathan Dewol from New York Yearly Meeting, John P. Pennington from Indiana Y. M. and William P. Pearson from North Carolina Yearly Meeting

The Committee appointed in the 6th Mo. last to make the necessary alterations and repairs for the accommodation of the Yearly Meeting and to take the care of our Meeting House and other property in Newport R. I. presented the following report which was read, approved and accepted viz

To the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting, Dear Friends:—

We, your committee appointed in sixth month last year, to act in conjunction with R. I. Monthly Meeting, and for other purposes, have attended to our appointment and present herewith the accompanying report of our doings, viz. With the consent of R. I. Monthly Meeting, through its committee we have made such changes as seemed necessary in the upper room at the north end of the Meeting House and of the stairway leading thereto, to make the same desirable and convenient for those in attendance at the Yearly Meeting as a Lunch Room. They have also caused two large rooms to be taken from off the rear of the Womens Meeting Room, for the use of committees, and for other purposes and will be known as Committee rooms No. 1 and No. 2 Other necessary repairs have also been made upon the floor, floor timbers and sills under a portion of the large meeting room. The introduction of the city water into the lunch room, and plumbing for the same, Gas piping and fixtures, for lunch room, and committee rooms, with painting of all the new work inside and a portion of the house upon the outside, has incurred expense of about $1300. all of which we submit to the meeting

Samuel R. Buffinton,
Owen Dame,
Ellen C. Buffum,
Susan V. Thompson,
Anthony M. Kimber.

Newport 6 mo, 10th. 1886.

The Committee to whom was entrusted, the subject of our title to the Maryville Institute property, made a verbal report, that having taken legal advice in the premises, have reason to believe our title to said property is good.

The Committee to cause a distribution of the Charters of our Yearly Meeting, report the service not fully accomplished and the subject is referred to the next Representative Meeting.

The Committee to cause an edition of 5000 copies of the essay upon oaths, to be printed and distributed, report the service accomplished.

The Committee to prepare an essay upon the subject of War, informed the meeting, that they had given the subject much earnest thought, but are not prepared to present such an issue at this time, Whereupon, this meeting refers, the subject to our next Representative Meeting.

The subject of Divorce, claiming at this time our serious attention, this meeting, would refer the same to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in the Second month last, to examine the several securities and trust funds, held by the Yearly Meeting, presented the following report, which was read, and is satisfactory to the meeting- viz,

To the Representative Meeting,

The committee appointed in second month last," to examine the Accounts and securities, of the several Trust funds, held by the Yearly Meeting" &c. have attended to the matter and now submit the following report, viz,

They find in the hands of George Howland Jr., Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, Funds for the use of the Yearly Meeting, consisting of 20 shares of stock in the Eagle National Bank, of Providence.- Par value, $50. each- $1000; and a deposit in the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank, $600.

Also the Boston Meeting House Fund, viz,
9 City of Providence water bonds, $1000. each $9000
Deposit in New Bedford Five Cent Savings Bank. 1123.
$10.123.

Also the Phillip J. Tripp Fund, viz,
1 Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Bond 6% - $1000.
1 " Burlington & Quincy " " " 4% 1000.
Deposit in N. B. Five cent Sav. Bank, Book # 37876. 79.30
$2079.30

Also the Elizabeth Fry Fund viz,
5 N.Y. Lackawanna & Western R.R. 6% bonds $5000.
5 Chicago & Northwestern " 6% " 5000.
10 Chicago, Burlington & Quincy " 4% " 10.000.

10 Chicago, St. Louis & New Orleans R.R. 5% bonds $10.000.
Deposit in New Bedford Five cent. Sav. Bank book # 35725 157.81
$30.157.81

Owing to a misunderstanding in relation to the transfer of the two last named funds, they have not yet been placed in the hands of the Treasurer of the Boarding School funds, but will be so placed at an early date.

In the hands of Thomas Harkness, Treasurer of the Boarding School Funds viz.

The General School Fund, consisting of Bank Stocks Mortgages and Buildings erected on the School lands at a cost of $166.442.73 and the Charitable Fund invested in like securities costing $33.138.00.

The income from these two funds the past year has been $1266.34 as shown by the Treasurers statement herewith submitted. The General Fund is increased over the amount reported last year, $6.4.32.40 derived as follows:—

Received from Geo. Howland Jr. Treas. Y. M. $3002.40
" " Sale of Land 2031.25
" " Profit on Bank Shares sold 1398.75

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin and Charles M. Bailey, trustees of the Mosher Fund, viz.
1 registered 5% gold bond, City of Boston, $10.000
Deposit in Lynn Inst. for Savings, book # 8320 - 1938.67
" in New Bedford " " # 6,760 - 799.28
$12.737.95

34/84 In the hands of Benj. F. Knowles for the trustees of the George Sturge Fund, viz.
25 consolidated, first Mortgage Bonds, Pennsylvania Railroad 6% due 1905 — £200 each say, $25.000

We see no reason to recommend any change in the investments of the several funds.

Newport, 6th Month 10th 1886.

Owen Dame—
J. O. Inman—
Samuel R. Buffinton

✓—

Yearly Meeting School Fund, care of
Thomas Harkness, Treasurer.

General Fund Investments.

			Cost	Pres. Valu
56	Shares Providence National Bank,	$23400.	$25200.00	32200.
185	do Manuf^s " "	18500.—	19604.45—	27380.
104	" National Union BK, Woonsocket.	5200.—	5408.—	6240
30	" Merchant National BK, Prov.	1500.—	1680.25—	2040
39 7/2	" Rhode Island " "	9937.50	10659.88—	10733.
50	" Mechanics " " "	2500.—	2925.50.	3300.
156	" American " "	7800—	8382.75—	7020.
	Isabel S. B. Nichols note	6000—	6000—	6000
	Balance Building Account		26702.90—	26702.9
			$106563.73	$121115.

Less over investment due T. Harkness— 121.00

Amt., of Fund $106.442.73

Charitable Fund Investments.

142½	Shares, R. I. National BK, Prov.	$3562.50.	$3847.50—	$3847.50
10	" Merchants " " "	500.—	500.—	600.
10	" National Union " Woonsocket.	500.—	520—	600—
75	" Manuf, National " Prov.	7500.—	7500	11100.
120	" Phenix " "	6000.—	6000	10200
66	" National Exchange " "	3300—	4218—	5940—
100	" Pacific National BK. Pawtucket	5000—	5000—	6600—
1	City of New Bedford Water Bond,	1000—	1000—	1100—
3	Rhode Island bonds,—	3000—	3000	3300—
	Deposit in Prov. Instit^n for Savings BK " " Union Savings BK	1008.50 544	1008.50 544	1008.50 544
			$33.138—	$44.520.—

(sig.) Thomas Harkness, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct — 5mo., 31st 1886

(signed) Owen Dame—
J. C. Inman.

Income and payments on the Yearly Meeting School Fund by the treasurer Thomas Harkness.

On General Fund—

Amt. of fund in his care— last year— $100.011.33

1885		
1 mo. 20	Profit on 25 shares Manufs. National Bank sold at over cost,	$1075.75
6 mo. 24	Recieved for sale of land to B. S. Nichols, by committee -	$2031.25
11 mo. 23	Recieved from Geo. Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Mtg. for sale of land,	$3002.4[illegible]
1886 -		
1 mo. 2	Profit in 28 shares, Exchange National BK, sold over cost,	$168.00
2 mo. 11	Profit on 20 shares ditto - Sold over cost -	$155.00
		$106442.73

Income thereon recieved -	$6031.86 *
Recieved return premiums on Insurance -	520.05
	$6551.91

Payments

Paid Insurance Premiums	$730.
Paid Augustine Jones for receipts	5821.91
	6551.91

Charitable Fund.

Amt of fund, same as last year.	$33,138 -
Income recieved thereon	$2228.48
On last year -	1349.63
	$3578.11

Payments -

Paid school bills	$2670.85 -
Balance on hand	907.26
	3578.11

(Signed) Thomas Harkness, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct -
5 month 31st - 1886 -

(Signed) Owen Dunn.
J. C. Inman -

* Of which $840.62 recieved for rents.

Insurance on School Property—

On school Building & additions and contents Blanket Policys as follows:-

Firemans Mutual Insurance Co,	$30000.
State " "	25000
Manuf. " " "	25000
Mechanics " " "	21000.
Blackstone " " "	19000.
	$120000.
Providence Steam Boiler Mutl Insurance Co, on Boiler & Building	$1500.
Hope Mutual Insurance Co, on Laundry building	1200.
Union " Insurance Co, " Farm-house	1600.
Prov. Washington " " " Barn & Carriage house	5000.
Union Mutual National " " Wells Cottage	3000.
" " " " " Eaton "	5500.
" " " " Double "	7000.
	$144800

Thomas Harkness Treasurer

Examined and found correct, 5 mo, 31st 1886.

Owen Lamb-
J. C. Inman--

The clerk is directed to lay the proceedings of this meeting before the Yearly Meeting. The meeting then concluded, purposing to meet at the call of the clerk of the Yearly Meeting.

Timothy B. Hussey, Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held in Newport R. I. 6th mo. 16th 1886. We are informed by the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting that the following named Friends have been appointed to constitute a Representative Meeting for the ensuing year – viz.—
Samuel L. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Lydia C. Neal. George Howland jr., Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones, Esther Jones, Richard Battey, Mary A. Battey, Alfred H. Jones, Elizabeth K. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, J. Warren Hawkes, Hannah J. Bailey, William O. Newhall, James C. Inman, Benjamin F. Knowles, Charles F. Coffin, Thomas Harkness, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anthony M. Kimber, Augustine Jones, Augustus F. Cox, S. Jane Cox, Sarah F. Tobey, Wm. Thompson, Susan T. Thompson, Olney T. Meader, Daniel C. Maxfield, George Douglas, Louisa N. Meader, Isaac Steere, Susan S. Tripp, Levi Jones, Myra E. Frye, Harriet L. Collins, John J. Frye.

Whose names being called there were present 25 members viz.— Samuel L. Buffinton, Ellen K. Buffum, George Howland jr., Anna G. Wood, Reuben T. Jones, Esther Jones, Richard Battey, Mary A. Battey, Alfred H. Jones, Elizabeth K. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, J. Warren Hawkes, Hannah J. Bailey, William O. Newhall, Benjamin F. Knowles, Anthony M. Kimber, S. Jane Cox, Wm. Thompson, Susan T. Thompson, Olney T. Meader, Daniel C. Maxfield, Louisa N. Meader, Susan S. Tripp, Myra E. Frye, George Douglas.

Timothy B. Hussey was appointed Clerk to this Meeting the ensuing year. It was concluded that the regular Meetings for the ensuing year be held as follows viz.:—

At Lynn on Fourth day the 18th of 8th mo. at 2 ½ o'clock in the afternoon—

At Providence on Fourth day the 2nd of 2nd mo. 1887 at 3 P. M. &

At Portland on Fifth day 6th mo. 9th 1887 at 8 P. M.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to pay to the Trustees of Wesleyan Hall $320. it being the provision for a place for a Meeting for worship in Boston for the current year.

The following communication was received from George Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting Viz.:—

To the Representative Meeting.

In accordance with the authority conferred upon me as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, I have signed a Legacy receipt for £172. 4s. 6d. and have received from the Executor of the estate of Henry Camps of Bristol (England) for the benefit of the Maryville Institute the above sum of £172.. 4.. 6d. in a bill on London which bill I have sold, realizing therefor $839.17, and hold the same subject to the direction of the meeting.

George Howland. Jr.
Newport 6th Mo. 16th 1886. Treasurer N. E. Y. Meeting

Whereupon this Meeting directs that the sum of money thus received be placed in the hands of the Trustees of the George Sturge Fund to be invested as a permanent fund — the income of which to be used to meet the current expenses of the said Institution. —

The Meeting then adjourned
Timothy B. Hussey. Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held in Lynn 8/18th 1886 Present at this time 27 Members Viz — Samuel R. Buffinton Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Lydia C. Neal. Geo. Howland Jr. Richard Battey, Mary A. Battey, Elizabeth K. Jones, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, Hannah J. Bailey, William O. Newhall, Benj. F. Knowles, Charles F. Coffin, Thomas Harkness, Gertrude W. Cartland, Anthony M. Kimber Augustine Jones, Wm Thompson, Susan T. Thompson Olney T. Meader, Daniel C. Maxfield, George Douglass Isaac Stiere Myra E. Frye, Harriett D. Collins & John J. Fry. Reasons for the absence of four of our members were given.

We have also acceptably in the attendance of this Meeting our friend William L. Pearson from N. Carolina Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting is authorized to borrow a sum of money not exceeding $3500. in anticipation of the receipt of the quotas called for by that Meeting from our several Quarterly Meetings.

The Comtee to cause a distribution of the Charters of our Yearly Meeting reports the service accomplished —

The Committee to prepare an Essay upon the subject of War, presented the following which was read, approved, and referred back to the committee, with liberty to make such minor changes as seem to them desirable - to have the same stereotyped and 5000 copies printed and distributed as in their judgement may seem best, and they are authorized to draw on the Treas. of the Y. M. for the expense incurred.

By a Minute from the Yearly Meeting we are informed that the subject of International Arbitration has been referred to this Meeting, Whereupon this meeting refers the same to the Committee now under appointment upon the subject of War, and they are requested to report at a future Meeting.

By a Minute from the Yearly Meeting we are also informed that the subject of Capital Punishment has been referred to this Meeting, Whereupon we appoint our friends Timothy B. Hussey, Benj F. Knowles, John J. Frye, Hannah J. Bailey, Myra E. Frye & Anna M. Hussey a Committee to take the subject into consideration and act thereon as way may open for them and report at a future Meeting -

Information having been received of the action of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting in reference to receiving Credentials rejected by the Yearly Meeting, this Meeting is united in appointing our Friends Augustine Jones. Hannah J. Bailey. Ellen K. Buffum and Benj. F. Knowles a Committee to consider the subject and extend such Christian care as the case may demand and report at our next Meeting -

The Meeting then adjourned
Timothy B. Hussey. Clerk.

491
1886 At a Special Representative Meeting held in Boston Tenth Month 16th 1886.

Present at this time 23 members viz Samuel R. Buffinton Ellen R. Buffum Owen Dame Sophia E. Tabor Richard Cutler Mary E. Cutler Timothy B. Hussey, William C. Pickard, James C. Inman Benj F. Knowles. Charles F. Coffin, Anthony M. Kimber Augustine Jones. William Thompson, Susan F. Thompson, Olney T. Meader. Daniel C. Mayfield. Louisa J. Meader, Isaac Stone, Myra C. Frye and John D. Frye.

Satisfactory reasons were assigned for the absence of six of our members—

The Clerk informs that this Meeting was called pursuant to the following written request viz

Sandwich 10th mo. 7th 1886

To Timothy B. Hussey, Clerk of the Representative Meeting
Dear friend

In connection with the action of Sandwich Qr. Meeting held this day, asking the advice of the Representative Meeting upon a certain subject. ~~the~~ The undersigned, members of said Meeting, also are united and request that a Meeting be appointed at Boston at the earliest practicable day, when the Hall where Friends hold their Meeting can be had after due notice to members.

(signed) Samuel R. Buffinton — Ellen R. Buffum
Augustine Jones. B. F. Knowles. Sarah F. Tobey, and Owen Howland pr by S.R. Buffinton at his request.

The following communication is received from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting viz

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Sandwich 10 mo. 7th 1886. the following minute was adopted and the Clerks were directed to furnish it to the Representative Meeting

This Meeting is united in asking the Representative Meeting for its advice in relation to the course to be pursued by Clerks and Correspondents of Monthly Meetings in signing returning ~~minutes~~ certificates for Ministers, in cases where doubt exists as to their unity with the Yearly Meeting. Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Edw T. Tucker Clerk for the day.
Rebecca [illegible] Clerk

Whereupon this Meeting appoints the following named Friends viz Augustine Jones, William O. Newhall, George Howland, Susan T. Thompson, Ellen K. Buffum and Anna G. Wood, a Committee to draw up and produce to the afternoon sitting of this Meeting a Minute of advice to be sent down to our subordinate meetings –

The Committee appointed in the 7th Mo last, presented the following report viz.

The Committee in the matter of Dartmouth Mo Meeting report that they have attended to that service. That they met five of the Elders and Overseers of said Meeting and one of its Clerks at Sandwich Mass. recently and that those officers assured the Committee that no certificates hereafter would be received from Ministers not in unity with this Yearly Meeting. The Committee ask to be released from further service.

For the Comtee Augustine Jones.

10th Mo 16th 1886

which was read, approved and the Committee is released from further service –

Adjourned to 2 o'clock this afternoon –

Afternoon met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed previous to our adjournment to consider the request from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting report as follows viz.

The Representative Meeting of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, recommends that our members maintain true and faithful loyalty to the said Yearly Meeting and its injunctions, more especially in relation to the matter contained in Minute No. 56 of the Minutes of 1885, which is as follows, viz:

"We desire to protect our membership from all influences which are not in accordance with the clear testimony of our Religious Society and the teaching of the New Testament. We believe in the Spiritual nature of Christ's kingdom, and that all outward ceremonies have been fulfilled and ended in Christ. This Meeting records its judgment for the guidance of its Subordinate Meetings, that those holding or teaching a contrary doctrine cannot be received as acceptable Ministers of the Society of Friends, within our limits."

And the Representative Meeting authorizes and directs that

Subordinate Meetings in said Yearly Meeting shall not receive the Certificates or issue Returning Minutes for Ministers or others in cases in which any doubt exists as to the unity of such persons with said Yearly Meeting or its instructions. And it further authorizes and directs the clerks and correspondents of such Subordinate Meetings to withhold their signatures from such Minutes, if issued or attempted to be issued.

The Meeting was brought under an earnest concern for the welfare of the Church in the present emergency. It was the desire of the Meeting to uphold all that is good, while it testifies clearly against anything that would compromise either the doctrine or established position of the Society of Friends in regard to the so-called outward ordinances or other fundamental principles.

We therefore appoint Benjamin F. Knowles, Richard Battey, Owen Dame, Hannah J. Bailey, Ellen K. Buffum, Timothy B. Hussey, George Howland, Jr., Susan T. Thompson, Anna C. Wood, Lydia C. Neal, and Reuben T. Jones, — a Committee to extend Christian care over the Subordinate Meetings of our Yearly Meeting, and to advise and assist in preventing such Ministers or others, not in unity as above mentioned, from being received or endorsed by Friends or Subordinate Meetings, contrary to the concern of this Meeting and the intent of the preceding Minute.

The Clerk was authorized to cause one thousand copies of the above minute to be printed, and sent down to the subordinate Meetings, for their direction and also to be distributed among the members constituting them.

The Meeting then adjourned

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk —

At a Representative Meeting held in Providence, R. I. 2nd Mo 2nd 188

Present at this time 24 Members. Viz. Samuel R. Buffinton. Ellen K. Buffum, Owen Dame, Lydia C. Neal, Anna G. Wood, Timothy B. Hussey, Anna M. Hussey, J. Warren Hawkes, Hannah J. Bailey, William O. Newhall, James O. Inman, Benjamin F. Knowles, Charles F. Coffin, Thomas Harkness, Anthony M. Kimber, Augustus F. Cox, Sarah F. Tobey, William Thompson, Susan T. Thompson, Olney T. Meader, Louisa N. Meader, Isaac Steere, Myra E. Frye, John J. Frye.

For the absence of 7 members satisfactory reasons were assigned.

The Committee to cause an Edition of 5000 Copies of the Essay on the subject of War to be printed and distributed, report the service accomplished.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of a combined action of the Yearly Meetings on the questions of Peace and Arbitration presented the following report viz.-

To the Representative Meeting of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.-

The Committee on War report;— That they have considered the subject of a Conference on Peace and Arbitration to be composed of delegates from the different Yearly Meetings in America which was referred to them. And that they are united in the judgment that such a Conference ought to be held this year.

And that in furtherance of that object, it would be desirable for our Representative Meeting to correspond with similar bodies of the other Yearly Meetings requesting their cooperation with us in holding such a Conference.

2nd Mo. 1st 1887. Augustine Jones { on behalf of the Committee.

which was read, accepted and the recommendations adopted and the Clerk was authorized to correspond with the representative bodies of the other Yearly Meetings - inviting them to unite with us in appointing delegates to meet in Conference upon these subjects at Richmond, Indiana in the Ninth Month next, at the close of the Conference appointed for 9/23, 1887, and report at a future meeting.

The subject of Arbitration now before Congress claiming our attention the Clerk is instructed to cause a petition to be presented to Congress in furtherance of Senate Bill No. 2362 and signed by the Clerk on behalf of this meeting

The following communication received from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting was then read. viz.

To the Representative Meeting.

We are united in requesting the Representative Meeting to prepare and publish a document setting forth clearly the views of Friends on the subject of the so called ordinances, for distribution among the members of this Yearly Meeting and inquirers.

By direction of Fairfield Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 11th Mo. 6th 1886.

I. Warren Hawkes
Lavina M. Briggs } Clerks.

Upon consideration the meeting was united in appointing the following named Friends Augustine Jones, I. Warren Hawkes, Benjamin F. Knowles, Susan T. Thompson and Hannah J. Bailey a Committee to prepare and report to this Meeting a brief Essay upon the subject of the so called ordinances for general distribution.

We appoint our Friends Samuel R. Buffinton, James O. Inman and Owen Dame a Committee to examine the accounts and securities of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting and report to a future meeting.–

We appoint our Friends Augustus F. Cox, John J. Frye, Reuben T. Jones, Hannah J. Bailey, Huldah H. Leighton Myra E. Frye, Mary B. Johnston and Timothy B. Hussey a Committee to provide homes for Friends in attendance and make the necessary arrangements for holding our next Yearly Meeting in Portland, Me.

The Meeting then adjourned

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk

At a Representative Meeting held at Portland Maine 6th Mo 9th 1887

Present 28 Members viz:-
Samuel R. Buffinton, Owen Dame. Lydia C. Neal. George Howland Jr. Anna G. Wood. Esther Jones. Richard Battey. Mary A. Battey. Timothy B. Hussey. Anna M. Hussey. J. Warren Hawkes, Hannah J. Baily. William O. Newhall, Benj: F. Knowles, Gertrude W. Cartland Augustine Jones. Augustus F. Cox. S. Jane Cox. William Thompson Susan T. Thompson, Olney T. Meader. Daniel C. Maxfield George Douglass. Louisa N. Meader Isaac Stere. Susan S. Tripp. Levi Jones and John J. Frye.

For the absence of six of our Members sufficient reasons were assigned.

In accordance with instructions from this Meeting in the Second Mo last the Clerk addressed the following communication to each of the Representative Bodies of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and America - Viz:

To the Representative Meeting of —— Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends-

At a Representative Meeting of the of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in Providence R.I. 2/2-1887-

The subject of a combined action of the Yearly Meetings of Great Britain and America on the questions of Peace and Arbitration claimed the prayerful consideration of this Meeting and the Clerk was authorized to correspond with the Representative bodies of the several Yearly Meetings inviting them to unite with us in appointing delegates to meet in conference upon these subjects and would suggest as a time and place 9th Mo. next at Richmond. Ind. at the close of the "Conference of Committees from the different Yearly Meetings" appointed for 9th Mo. 23rd 1887.

Hoping this action will meet your approval and that you will reply favorably-

We remain your friends

On behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk

N. Berwick. Me. 2/28th 1887.

In response to the above communication the following letters were received ~~from New York~~ viz.-

Mt. Kisco. N. Y. 3 mo 7th 1887

Timothy B. Hussey.
Clerk &c

Dear Friend:—

The copy of the Minute of New England Representative Meeting in reference to a Conference of Yearly Meetings on Peace and Arbitration addressed to New York Representative Meeting, has been received and will be laid before that body-

Very truly thine &c
James Wood. Clerk.—

Ohio.—

Damascus. Ohio 4-5-87

Timothy B. Hussey
North Berwick. Me } Dear Friend

Thy communication on behalf of your Representative Meeting dated 2-28-87 was duly received.

We were considering the propriety of calling a meeting of our Representative body, and I delayed answering on that account.

It has been decided not to call a meeting of our Representative body at present, and it will not probably convene until the time of our next Yearly Meeting about the last of 8th Mo.—

I will have a care to bring the subject before our Meeting at that time, and I feel but little hesitancy in giving the expectation that we shall at that time appoint delegates, as suggested in your recommendations.

The subjects named are certainly highly important and their right adjustment is eminently vital to Church State and people

Very truly thy friend
(signed) Isaac P. Hole Clerk—

Iowa.

Springdale, Iowa 3 Mo. 9th 1887.

T. B. Hussey.
Dear Friend-

The paper from New England Yearly Meeting of Friends addressed to that of Iowa reached me today.

Will try to remember and bring the subject mentioned before the meeting in 9th Mo. next, which will be in time for the proposed conference

Respectfully
Lawrie Tatum.
Clerk of Iowa Executive Meeting of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Canada.— Newmarket. Ontario. 3rd Mo. 5th 1887.

Timothy B. Hussey

Dear Friend;

The proposition of the Representative Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting on the questions of Peace and Arbitration is at hand. and will be laid before the first meeting held of the Representatives of Canada Yearly Meeting. If no special meeting is called it will come in due course in sixth month next. just preceding our Yearly Meeting. and of its action thereon you will get due notice.—

In the meantime I will inform some of our leading members of your proposition that they may be better prepared for action in the matter.

Thy Friend

Benjamin Cody

Clerk of Representative Meeting.—

Philadelphia— Moorestown. New Jersey—

3rd Mo. 18th. 1887—

Timothy B. Hussey

Respected Friend:—

The communication from your Representative Meeting respecting joint action on the subject of Peace and Arbitration. was read in our Meeting for Sufferings to-day. I was requested to inform thee that the way did not open to unite in the movement proposed.

I am thy friend

Joseph Walton.—

Economy. Indiana 3rd Mo. 8th 1887.—

Timothy B. Hussey

Dear Friend:—

The invitation of New England Representative Meeting to Indiana Representative Meeting to appoint delegates to meet in conference on the subjects of Peace and Arbitration was received on the morning of Whitewater Quarterly Meeting and was laid before the members of the Representative body present at the meeting. 7 in number. The subject was fully united with and also that it was fully time for united and aggressive action. on the subjects. instead of a mere negative testimony as is too often the case now. We were also united in suggesting to you whether it would not be better to refer these subjects to the Conference of Committees of the several Yearly Meetings.

No subject of greater importance can come before the conference, and delegates hereafter appointed might be chosen with reference to the consideration of these subjects.— If this plan should meet your approbation you can correspond with the Yearly Meetings as the one introducing the subject. Our body meets but once a year, the day previous to the opening of Yearly Meeting, unless there is a special call.

Hoping that the subject may be prominently brought before Friends—

I am thy friend
Charles W. Osborne.

The Meeting then referred the subject for further consideration to our succeeding Representative Meeting.—

The Committee appointed in 2nd Mo. last to prepare an essay upon the subject of the so called ordinances presented a report in part and the subject is referred to our succeeding Representative Meeting for further consideration.

Agreeably to the instruction of this Meeting, the Clerk informed that he forwarded in Second Month last to Senator Wilson the following communication Viz.—

Petition

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled.—

The Representative Meeting of the Society of Friends acting for and in behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England respectfully represent that they believe that the only just method of settlement in National and other disputes is by Arbitration and Courts, and in furtherance of this, respectfully petition you to pass the bill known as "Senate Bill No. 2362: To promote the political progress and commercial prosperity of the American nations."

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid held at Providence, R. I. Second Month 2nd 1887—

Timothy B. Hussey Clerk.—

To the above the following reply was received viz.—

United States Senate,
Washington, D. C. Feb. 24th 1887—

Timothy B. Hussey.
N. Berwick, Me.

Dear Sir:—

The petition of the representative meeting of the society of Friends acting for and in behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, in favor of the enactment of legislation by Congress for the settlement of national and international disputes by arbitration and in favor of the passage of senate bill 2362 forwarded by you for presentation to the Senate, is at hand, and I will present the same to that body to-morrow. The subject to which the petition relates is one in which I have taken no little interest and I am very earnestly in favor of the legislation prayed for.

Yours Truly
James F. Wilson.—

The Committee appointed in the Second Month last upon the subject of Capital Punishment report that they have attended to the duty assigned them. Members of the Committee corresponded with and visited many of the leading members of the Legislature of Maine. Instructive literature touching the subject was freely distributed, and two Friends spoke on behalf of our Society at the hearing upon the subject before the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature and they are glad further to inform the Meeting that the Legislature of Maine has repealed the Law imposing the penalty of death for crime and substituted therefor imprisonment for life in capital offences.

B. F. Knowles
Hannah J. Bailey } For the Committee.

The Committee appointed in the second month last to examine the several Securities and Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting presented the following report which was read and is satisfactory to the Meeting. The report is as follows- Viz.—

To The Representative Meeting.

The undersigned members of the Committee appointed in Second Month last "to examine the accounts and Securities of the of the several Trust Funds held by the Yearly Meeting" have attended to our appointment and now submit the following report- Viz.—

We find in the hands of George Howland Jr. Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting. Funds for the use of the Yearly Meeting consisting of 20 shares of Stock in the Eagle National Bank of Providence. R. I. par value $50 each = $1.000. and a deposit of $600 in

the Five Cents Savings Bank New Bedford. Also in the same hands the Boston Meeting House Fund consisting of 9 #1000 City of Providence Water Bonds due 1906 at 5% interest -- #9000.
Deposit in the Five Cents Savings Bank New Bedford -- 1285.28
#10285.28

In the hands of Thomas Harkness. Treasurer of the Boarding School Funds viz.–

The General School Fund consisting of Bank Stocks. Mortgages and Buildings erected on the School Lands at a cost of #107.960.75 and the Charitable Fund invested in like securities costing #33,138.00 The income from these two Funds the past year has been #9,016.65 which, with the disposition thereof, is shown in detail by the Treasurer's statement submitted herewith. The General Fund has been increased above the amount reported last year #1,518.02 derived from the sale of land and the profit on Bank shares sold &c.

Also in the same hands the Philip J. Tripp Fund
consisting of 2 #1,000 Railroad Bonds costing ---- #1,920.70
and Deposited in Five Cents Savings Bank New Bedford 79.30
#2000.00

The income received from these Bonds the past year is #100.00

Also in the same hands the Elizabeth Fry Fund consisting of 30 Railroad Bonds and a Savings Bank Deposit, at a cost of #30,000.00. The income from this Fund paid to the Boarding School since the last report has been #2,000.

In the hands of Charles F. Coffin & Charles M. Bailey Trustees of the Mosher Fund

One Registered City of Boston Water Bond 5% ---	#10.000.
Deposit in Lynn Institution for Savings ----	2.017.99
" " New Bedford " " " ----	831.56
	#12.849.55

In the hands of Benjamin F. Knowles for the Trustees of the George Sturge Fund, viz.–

25 Consolidated 1st Mortgage Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co 6% due 1905 £200 each, say #25,000.00. Also in the same hands the H. H. Camps legacy viz. a note secured by mortgage on improved Real Estate at 7% ---- #1,000.00

Portland. Me. Sixth Month 9th 1887.–

Owen Dame
Samuel R. Buffinton.

Income and Payments on the Yearly Meeting School Fund in the care of Thomas Harkness Treas.

General Fund

Amount last year, and full itemized account placed on file.—

The Clerk is directed to lay the records of this Meeting for the past year before the Yearly Meeting—

Then adjourned, to meet at the call of the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting—

Timothy B. Hussey, Clerk.